Angus Matheson

ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY

TODD LECTURE SERIES

VOLUME XVI

KUNO MEYER, PH.D.

FIANAIGECHT

BEING A COLLECTION OF HITHERTO INEDITED IRISH POEMS AND TALES RELATING TO FINN AND HIS FIANA, WITH AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

DUBLIN
HODGES, FIGGIS, & CO. LTD.
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INTRODUCTION

THERE can be no doubt that the oldest form of the word variously written *fían* and *fiann*[1] is *fían*, a feminine *ā*-stem, making its genitive singular *féine*, and its nominative, accusative, and vocative plural *fiana*. This is its spelling when the word makes its first appearance in two manuscripts of the ninth century, the Book of Armagh and the St. Paul codex. On fo. 14*a*2 of the former we read: *iugulauit me fian maicc Maicc Con in regno Coirpri Nioth fer*; and in the latter the gen. sg. *féne* occurs in *oaic féne* on p. 2.[2] Throughout the centuries the form with one *n* continues to be the ordinary spelling of the best scribes,[3] though *nn* begins to appear early in the plural forms.[4] Perhaps it was introduced here from the adjective *fianna* (for older *fían-dae*).[5] But that for a long time, however it was written by individual scribes, it continued to be pronounced with a single *n*, is proved by such rhymes as the following:—*fiann* : *dían* LL. 52*a*47; 206*b*16; : *riam*, ib. 52; *fiad*, ib. 203*b*41; : *aniar* LU. 51*b*28; : *niad* (when this word had become a monosyllable), ib. 34; : *domtad*, Ériu IV, 92, § 1; *féin*:

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[1] There is no early example of the spelling *fiand*.

[2] Wrongly rendered in Thes. Pal. II., p. 293, by 'warriors of the Féni,' instead of '*fían*-warriors.' Cf. *dias oac fene*, LL. 252*b*14; *inn óic féinne*, 95*a*28; *dias oac féinne*, 90*a*19; 195*b*15; *Inín nÓac Féne*, Trip. 206, 3.

[3] Such as those of LU., Rawl. B. 502, YBL., Laud 610. See e.g. LU. 45*b*8, 47*a*31, 47*b*4, 51*b*21, 28, 30, 34, 52*a*10, 102*a*42; SR. 3992, 6283, 6356, 6514, 7163, 7197, 8021; YBL. 119*a*36, 125*b*7, 195*a*30, 253, 26, 257*c*23, 26, 32; CZ. III., 44, § 23: R.C. v. 197, § 1; 198, l. 12; ib. § 4; p. 199, l. 8; p. 200, l1. Michael O'Clery always writes *fían* or *fien*. See e.g. infra, pp. 10, § 2, 8, 9; 12, § 17, 20; 44, l. 3. The Annals of Ulster have *féinid* (A.D. 868). In his edition of Cormac's Glossary, p. 29, l. 43, Stokes unnecessarily emends *fían*[*n*]*aib*; also in Cath Catharda, l. 5363. See a remark by E. Gwynn (Metr. Dinds. II., p. 107): 'All texts except E read *fían*.'

[4] *fianna*, SR. 5610. On p. 88*a*, Rawl. B. 502 repeatedly has *fían*, but *fianna*, *fiannaib*. This is also the practice of the scribe of LL. See e.g. p. 106*b*.

[5] Examples of the adj. *fianna* will be found in LL. 21*a*25; 52*a*14; 209*a*8; CZ. III., p. 214 (*cranna fianna*, 'warlike shafts'). In YBL. 127*b*41, *fiannuse* stands for *fianda se*, and should have been rendered by me 'he was *fían*-like,' or 'he was a champion,' in the Festschrift für Whitley Stokes, p. 5, § 10.

féin ('self'), LL. 208*a*41, and infra, p. 12, § 20; *fiannaib*: *diamair*, LL. 155*b*31; *féned* : *trénfer*, Gwynn, Metr. Dinds. I., p. 44, 29; *fénnid*: *slébib*, CZ. III. 43, § 12; : *céilig*, LL. 17*a*44.

The *nn* then has no etymological value, and Stokes's equation of the word with Lat. **vēnā*, from which *vēnāri* is derived, may thus be upheld. Both go back to **u̯eiənā-*. The same form with regular ablaut is found in the Old-Bulgarian *vojna*, 'war.'[1] See Walde, Etym. Wörterbuch s. v. *vēnāri*. The original meaning of the word was 'a driving, pursuing, hunting.' While Latin has confined the meaning to the chase, Irish and Old-Bulgarian agree in its application to warfare. In Irish, according to a well-known tendency of the language,[2] the old abstract sense has given way to a concrete meaning, and the word has come to denote 'a band of warriors on the warpath.'

From the earliest times the word has entered largely into compounds.[3] Among these the personal names are of special interest.[4] The following all occur in the Annals, and in the genealogical tracts contained in the Book of Leinster, the Book of Ballymote, and Rawl. B. 502: *Fían-airle*, *Fianamail* (*Fiansamail* BB. 125*b*), *Fían-bard*, *Fianboth*,[5] *Fían-chad* (LL. 329*b*29), *Fían-chóe*, *Fían-*

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[1] I am indebted to Professor Carl Marstrander for the following note:—'Aus **u̯oiənā-*, ursprünglich wol die Kompositionsform von **u̯eiənā-*. Es geht daraus hervor, dass die Ableitung mit *-n* schon zur Zeit der indogermanischen Gemeinschaft vorhanden war.'

[2] Cf. *cerd*, *flaith*, *díberg*, &c.

[3] Such an old compound is *fíanlach* (*fíanlag*, *fíallach*) m. from **u̯eina-slōgus*: *ba hé fiallach seng subaid*, infra, p. 10, § 11; *in fianlag*, Br. D. D. 56; *dolluid fianlag do Gallaib lāndalta la Labraid Longsech dochum nhÉrenn*, LL. 311*a*22; *fianlach már di maccaib báis Luigne 7 Galeng robātar oc indriud na túath more gentilium*, AU. 846. In Mid. Ir. the word followed the declension of *s*-stems, so that we have the dat. sg. *dind fiallaig*, LL. 87*b*28, the nom. pl. *fianlaigi*, AU. 817. Like *fían* itself, the word was often employed in the general sense of 'company,' 'folk,' e.g. *fiallach icci 7 legis*, 'people of healing and curing,' LL. 84*b*34; *fiallach galair*, 'sick people,' Ir. Ordeals, § 25; *fialluch airfitiá*, 'musicians,' O'Mulc. 830*d*. So in Br. D. D. § 42, where LU. has *fiallach*. Egerton has *lucht*. A derivative *fiallachus* occurs Br. Dá Choca, § 4.

[4] It is one of the many signs of the late and largely artificial character of the 'Fenian' legends that not a single name containing the element *fían* occurs among the many hundred personal names of that cycle.

[5] Its original nom. was probably *Fianub*. Cf. *Cathub*, *Cóelub*, *Stanub*.

chú,[1] *Fían-chuire*, *Fían-érge*, *Fían-gáeth*, *Fían-gal*(*ach*), *Fían-gnía*, *Fían-gus* (*Clann Fiangusa*, AU. 963), *Fían-orbb*. A pet-form *Fiannacán* occurs in LL. 317*b*9. With the help of the Annals most of these names can be dated at least approximately.

It is sometimes argued that the 'internecine warfare' constantly waged by the tribes forbids us to take the average length of a generation during the early centuries of Irish history at thirty years. That this notion is erroneous, the examination of a few well-attested pedigrees taken at random from among hundreds will easily prove. Indeed, as will be seen, we may safely take the average duration of a generation during the first thousand years of our era at thirty-three years.

The twelve generations of the kings of Clann Cholmáin in Meath (Rawl. B. 502, p. 143*d*), from Conall Guthbind († 635) to Flann mac Máilsechlainn († 1042), have an average length of 33·9 years.

The thirteen generations of the Dalriadic kings of Scotland (Rawl. B. 502, p. 162*c* = LL. 336*a*), from Gabrán mac Domangarto († 560) to Máelcoluim mac Cináeda († 1034), work out at thirty-six years for each generation.

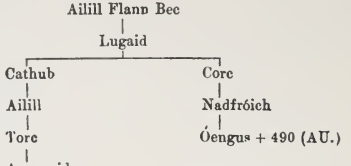
The fourteen generations of the kings of Ailech (Rawl. B. 502, p. 139*b* = LL. 338*a*), from Muirchertach mac Erca († 534) to Lochlann mac Máilsechlainn († 1023), yield an average of thirty-four years.

For sixteen generations of the Síl Onchon of the Húi Chenselaig (Rawl. B. 502, p. 117*a* = LL. 317*a*), from Crimthann mac Énnai Chenselaig († 425) to Énna mac Donnchada († 1126), we get an average of thirty-three years; and for sixteen generations of the Síl Aeda Sláne (Rawl. p. 144*a* = LL. p. 335*d*), from Conall Cremthainne († 485), to Donnchad mac Donnchada († 1017), the average is thirty-four.

Applying this result to the pedigree of a certain Fíangalach mac Colmáin of the Eoganacht Húa Cathboth (Rawl. B. 502,

[1] This would be the Ogam *Voenacunas* (Macalister, No. 21), if we may assume that *oe* here stands for *ē*. J. MacNeill, The Irish Ogham Inscriptions, p. 351, takes *voena-* as O. Ir. *fóen* or *fóin* 'supinus'; but I know of no Irish name compounded with that word.

p. 150*a* = LL. 326*g* = BB. 174*b*), we are enabled to fix the date of his death approximately at about 589, which carries us well into the sixth century.



This, so far as I have been able to find out, is the oldest instance of a name compounded with *fían*, though I see no reason to doubt the existence of such names at a far earlier period.

In place-names also *fían* and its derivatives are of frequent occurrence. Here *fían* occurs both in the genitive singular and plural. Thus we have e.g. Termond na Fían, LU. 51*b*28; Lind Féic na Fían, ib. 21; Mag Fían, Book of Rights 82, 13 = Mag Féne;[2] Escir na Fían, LL. 205*a*20; Lia na Fían (in Tara), Dinds. I. § 35; Dún nÓac Féne, Trip. 206, 3; Àth Féne im Mide, R.C. xx. 134, and several other places so called. But here there is the possibility that *Féne* may in some cases be the old tribal name.[3] Druim Féndeda, Trip. 232, 14.

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[1] Fialach LL., perperam.

[2] See Hogan's Onomasticon s. v.

[3] That *Féne* was in the first instance the name of a race or tribe is clear from the following passages:—Bátar trí prímchenéla i nÉri .i. Féini 7 Ulaid 7 Gaileoin, Laws I. 70, 2. 78, 4; Féni Temrach, ib. 80, 3; IV. 18: ó Féinib co hUltu, IV. 10; fri ré Cuind ó Féinib Temrach .i. fri aimser dā flatheman, I. 66, 80. Bátar tri maic Conaire oc Temuir i n-orbu Féine hi cóiciud Chorpri Níofer. Ar it é fénni (leg. Féni) in sin .i Muscraige 7 Dál Matti 7 Corcu Dubni 7 Lagein ó Buais co Commur Trí nUsce, LL. 292*a*; na trí Rúadchoin do Ḟeraib Féne, Dinds. 92. Nin mac Mágach do Fénib, H. 3. 18, p. 384 = Ninne m. Matech d'Feinib, Laws IV. 4, 27. ciamdis Féne atbertha do anmand dóib, LL. 133*b*20. a Fénib cach foras, Corm. 33. Féni for Fid Már, Expuls. Fir Maige i Feine, Rl. B. 502, p. 157. Further investigation will no doubt show where they were originally settled, and how they spread to different parts of Ireland.

In its stricter sense *fían* denoted a larger or smaller band of roving warriors, who had joined for the purpose of making war on their own account. This was called *dul for fianas* (*fénidecht*). They were, however, not mere robbers or marauders.[1] Indeed their mode of warfare was considered honourable and lawful, and is so recognized in the laws.[2] They were often men expelled from their clan (*éclaind*),[3] or landless men (*dithir*), sons of kings who had quarrelled with their fathers, men proclaimed, or men who seized this means to avenge some private wrong by taking the law into their own hands.[4] Though it might not be pleasant to come across them,[5] and though the Church had little good to say of them[6] as of the whole profession of arms, they were by no means held in abhorrence; their deeds and adventures were celebrated in songs and stories, and their existence was even considered essential to the welfare of the community. Thus in the Instructions of Cormac, § 3, 23, among the institutions which are best for a tribe, *fiana* are enumerated, though it is added that they should be 'without overbearing' (*cen diummus*). And in the Colloquy of the Two Sages, § 235 (Rev. Celt. xxvi.) 'cessation of *fianas*' is mentioned as one of the signs of an evil time that

[1] A clear distinction between a member of a *fían* and a mere robber (*díberg*) is drawn in O'Mulconry's Glossary, 309: *dibergg .i. dí-bi-argg .i. ní la láechacht adrímther ut arg fíann, ar ní bi i cóir láechachtae diultad Dé 7 gíallnæ demuin*, i.e. '*díbergg*, from *dí-*, *bi*, and *argg*, viz. he is not counted with brave warriors like a hero of *fíana*, for it is not becoming to brave warriorship to deny God and serve the Devil.'

[2] See e.g. Laws i., p. 206, 13, where the *eneclann* or 'honour-price' of the *fénid* is recognized on the ground that he commits lawful depredations (*fogla dílsi doní*). The *fénid* has his *cert* (Laws i., p. 202, 3) like any other member of society, and is entitled to his *lán díre* (ib. v., p. 418): *im chert cech fénneda, im orb mic niath* (sic leg.).

[3] See e.g. LL. p. 252*b*15: tánic dias oac féne do Emain Macha, dá écland, dá thrénfer.

[4] Hence, in LU. 118*b*6, *aithgabáil* 'reprisal' is said to belong to the *fénid*, as bell and psalm-singing belong to the Church, hostages to the king, and *trefocla* to the poets.

[5] In Thes. ii. 293, 7, *oaic féne* are grouped together with wolves and deer.

[6] See e.g. CZ. iii., p. 453, 25 = YBL., p. 253, 26: Cetharda fodera (fobera MSS.) fianus do duine .i. toimairc crícha, toformaig écraiti, etirdíben sáegol, arcuirethor fiana. 'Four things which *fianas* causes to man, viz. it oppresses territories, it increases enmity, it cuts off life, it invites tortures (of Hell).'

is coming. It must not be forgotten that they were the only professional soldiers in Ireland apart from the mercenaries, who besides were often foreigners.[1] This is the reason why the word *fían* is so often used in a wider sense for any war-band or host. This is especially the case in poetry. Thus when Cinaed úa Hartacáin apostrophizes the cemetery of the Brugh on the Boyne, saying (LU. 51*b*34):—

óthá Chremthand Ntad co Niall ba tú relec na fían find—

he only means to convey that many famous warriors lie buried there. And when another poet calls Maelfithrig, King of Ailech, *fénnid* (LL. 181*b*27), he wishes to give him the epithet of a redoubtable warrior.[2]

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[1] With regard to Gaulish mercenaries in the service of Irish Kings, see *Ériu* IV., p. 208. As after the Frankish conquest of Gaul the term *Franc* is often substituted for the earlier *Gall*—see e.g. Trip. 104, 31, where the Gauls Bernicius, Hibernicius, Hernicus, and their sister Nitria are called '*Fraincc Pátraic*,' also Fél.[2] p. 128, 35—so the Gaulish mercenaries of Conchobar are called *franc-amus* in LL. 111*a*36. During the Viking age we again find *Gaill* in the households of Irish kings. These are of course Norsemen, who, like their kinsmen in Byzantium, formed the body-guard of powerful kings. Thus Aed mac Néill, King of Ailech, had Norse mercenaries in his service:—

amsaig Ailig uill a lloss chlaidib chaim,
dot chomét co gúr bit for chúl do Gaill, LL. 148*b*20.

And early in the eleventh century Taâg mac Cellaig had a body-guard of Norsemen:—

A Goill 'sa amais imda tecait lem banais mbrogda,
bet ar dígail mo dimda ar mílid Clidna is Cnogba, CZ. VIII.

See also MR., p. 204, 19: mé bodéin 7 mo Ghaill.

[2] A good example of this wider use of *fían* is found in the Glossary of Cormac, who called Búanand 'muimme na fían' and 'dagmáthair oc forcetul gaiscid dona fíanaib.' The lady had nothing to do with Finn, and his *fiana*, but was the instructress of Cuchulinn and Fer Diad. Her full name was Scáthach Búanand, LL. 107*a*41, or Scáthach Búadach Búanand, TBC. l. 4040 (Wind.). In Rev. Celt. XXIX., p. 116, she is called Sgáthach ingen Bhuanuine. Whether Étech *mume na fían* (Fél[1]., p. lxxiii) belongs to the Fenian cycle I do not know.—In LL. 14*a*24 *clond na fénned* means the same as *cathmílid*, ib. 12*b*1. See also TTr. 274 (*na láth ngaile 7 na féinned fírgarb*); *for féinnedaib na Frigia*, ib. 1685; *for formnu féne Forainn*, S.R. 3992, and Alex. 219, 221. John MacNeill, quoting a passage from a poem by Gilla Brigde mac Conmidhe (Duanaire Finn, p. XXXIV), thinks that *fían* in the games of *brandub* or *fidchell* denoted the pawns. But from other passages it is clear that the poet used the word in the sense of the prose *foirenn* for the set of figures of the game.

The various *fiana* were held together by discipline, and had some kind of organization[1] and peculiar customs,[2] while of those wishing to join their ranks some test of skill or bravery was no doubt exacted. Each member of a *fian* was called *fénid*,[3] and their leader *rigḟénid*.[4]

A good instance of the formation of a *fian*, in this case by a woman (*ban-ḟénid*), will be found in the following story from Rawlinson B. 502, p. 143*a*22, and LL. 318*c*23 :—

Conaille Murthemne, di chlaind Conaill Cernaig doib.[5] Dál Runtair 7 Glasraigi hi Cūailṅgiu 7 Dál nImda,[6] di chlaind Conaill Costamail doib. Glass 7 Runtar 7 Imda trī maicc Conaill Chostamail nō Cosduib.[7] A ingen féin rosfuc dó[8] .i. Creidne banḟennid a mmāthair. Ingen side do Chonall Chostamail. Ba rí da*no* cōicid[9] Chonchobair in Conall. Ba haithis leis a ingen do brith na mmacc[10] dō. Bretha na maicc[11] ūad īarsin i n-imechtar[12] a ḟeraind 7 a cheniúil, ar ba hēcen do Chonall etarscarad na mmac sa fris fobīthin a rīgnai[13] .i. Āife a hainm, ar ba mār in cocad bæ eter Āife 7 Creidne. Doluid Creidne īarsin for fīannas[14] do ḟogail a hathar[15] 7 a lesmáthar ar bith a mmacc sechtar a mbunad-c[h]enel.[16] Trī nōnbuir dī for fīannas.[17] Cūlmoṅg fichthi[18] furri. Cumma noḟiched de[19] muir 7 ṫīr, is aire atberth[a] dī Creidni ba fēinnid.[20] Secht mblīadna dī for loṅgais (.i. eter hĒrinn 7

See e.g. Anecd. II., p. 58, § 20 : *imat fian fidchille* ; Sergl. Concul. § 30 (LU. 47*b*4) : *décca a rretha fian fidchell* ; LL. 51*a*23 : *cóica fidchell fian-imberta*, &c.

[1] The larger bands seem to have been divided into companies of five or nine. See Cormac s. v. *ringcne*, and the story of Creidne below.

[2] Their custom of erecting a pillar-stone after a victorious battle, and a cairn after sacking a place, is mentioned in Br. D. D. § 67. As to *fían-chluiche*, the exact meaning of which remains doubtful, see the Glossary to the Laws s. v.

[3] Another name for a prominent *fénid* was *arg fían*, which O'Mulconry's Glossary (57) derives from the Argives, 'i.e. the Greeks, for the excellence of their warriors' (*ar febus a n-ócc*).

[4] *flaith-ḟénnid* also occurs, e.g. LL. 207*b*51.

[5] .i. *add.* L. [6] Dál Runtair 7 Dál nImda i Cualṅgiu 7 Glasraige L. [7] nō C. *om.* L. [8] ingen rosfuc dia hathair R. [9] bai coicid (sic!) R. [10] brith macc R. [11] nosberthi R. [12] immull L. [13] Is mōti da*no* rachuir úad ar ecla na rīgna .i. a mnaa féin L. [14] fēnnidecht L. [15] d'fogail for a athair L. [16] dobert a macc[u] sechtar bunad a ceniúil ar ulc ra n-athair L. [17] loṅgais L. [18] *om.* L. [19] foficheḋ muir R. [20] is—fēinnid *om.* L.

Albain) co ndernai cōrai fria hathair. Asbert intī Conall tria fāithsine 7 fissidecht fria ingin: 'Bīaid dīlgenn for Ultaib,' ar Conall, '7 foglūaisfitir asa tīr. 7 do thrī maicc-siu, a Chrethni, bīat leo co lā brātha na tīre inlatar 7 nī bīa cumscugud foraib 7 rosbīa ana 7 immad ngaiscid.'[1]

'The Conaille[2] Murthemne are of the race of Conall Cernach. The Dál Runtair and Glasraige in Coolney and the Dál nImda are of the race of Conall Costamail. Glas and Runtar and Imda were three sons of Conall Costamail (or Cosdub, 'Blackfoot'). His own daughter had borne them to him, viz., Creidne the she-*fénid* was their mother. He was ashamed that his daughter should have borne the sons to him. Thereupon the sons were taken from him into the outer parts of his land and his kindred, for it was necessary for Conall that he should part with these sons on account of his queen, Aife. For great was the strife between Aife and Creidne. Then Creidne went on the warpath to despoil her father and her step-mother on account of her sons being outside their proper kindred. She had three bands of nine men with her on the warpath. She used to wear the hair of her back plaited. She would fight equally on sea and on land. Hence she was called Creidne that was a *fénid*.[3] She had been seven years in exile, both in Ireland and Alba, when she made peace with her father. This Conall said to his daughter, through prophecy and augury: 'There will be destruction on the men of Ulster,' said Conall, 'and they will be driven from their land. And thy three sons, O Creidne, shall possess to the day of Doom the lands into which they have gone, and they will not be moved (thence), and they shall have wealth and plenty of success in war.'

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[1] Dogní iartain síd fria hathair. Et asbert saide fria tré fāstini .i. in tír i rucait do meicc bid acut 7 bid rit chlaind co brāth 7 issed ón rofirad L.

[2] *Conaille* for older *Conail-ne*, like *Luig-ne*, *Lúaig-ne*, a tribe-name formed from a proper name, with the suffix *-ne* = Gaul. *-inios*. See C. Marstrander, CZ. VII., p. 380.

[3] *ba fénid* is not, as might be supposed, miswritten for *banfénid*. Compare the name *Fiachu ba aiccid*: 'F. that was a tenant,' and its explanation in Rawl. B. 502, p. 124*a*35 = LL. 315*b*. This *ba* in nicknames appears as 'qui fuit' in *Donnchad qui fuit Mael na mbó*, Rawl. B. 502, p. 117*a*; *Finguine qui fuit Stannub*, ib. p. 123*d*, &c.

The various *fiana* took their names from their leaders,[1] so that we read of the *fían maicc Maicc Cais* (Arm. fo. 18), *fiana Maic Con* (Corm. s. v. mugéme), *fíanna Luigne hUi Dedaid* (Rawl. B. 502, p. 149*a*43 = BB. p. 173*b*46), *fianna Foilnge* (ib. 88*b*32), *fiann Aeda Duib* (infra, p. 36, 23), *fianna Fothaid Canainne* (infra, p. 4, 3), *fianna Ailella Flainn Bic* (ib. p. 6, 12), &c.

Other leaders of *fiana* famous in history or romance were Máelcíaráin mac Rónáin, 'royal champion of the east of Ireland, leader of a *fían* for spoiling the Norse' (*rígnia airthir Érenn, féinid fogla Gall*), mentioned in the Annals of Ulster, A.D. 869; Asal, son of Conn Cétchathach (Laws I., p. 70, 10); Foibne[2] fénnid, Dinds. of Benn Foibni; fénnid Fliuchna, CZ III., 41, 43; Fóelán fénnid, Trip. 130, 14; in fénnid Find mac Cúanáin, LL. 204*b*58.

The first authentic *rígfénid* of whom we read in Irish history was Máelumai mac Báitáin, surnamed Garg 'the Fierce,' or the hero (*heros*, Rawl. B. 502, p. 140*a*10). He was the son of Báitán († 572) mac Muirchertaig († 543) m. Eogain m. Néill Nóigíallaig, and thus belonged to the royal race of Ailech. His death is mentioned in the annals under the year 610. He is expressly called *in rīgfēinnid* in Rawl. 502, p. 140*a*38, and as such he led a *fían* to Britain to assist King Aedán mac Gabráin in his warfare against the Angles. He took part in the battle of Degsastán (A.D. 603) and is said to have slain Eanfrid, brother of Ethelfrid, with his own hand.[3] Perhaps this expedition was the subject of the lost tale called *Echtra Máilumai maic Báitáin*.[4]

But Maeluma was not the only Irishman who led a *fían* to the support of his kinsmen in Britain. Another tale, also unfortunately lost, dealt with a similar expedition. It is entitled *Slúagad Fiachnai maic Báitáin co Dún nGúaire i Saxanaib*,[5] 'The Hosting of

[1] In Rawl. B. 502, p. 136*a*55, and LL. 24*a*, Cathâir Már is said to have been slain by the *fían Lúaigni i mBregaib* (= *i Temraig*, LL. 24*a*10). But that *fían* is here to be taken in the wider sense of 'a host' is shown by the same event being thus expressed in a poem in LL. 132*a*20: *co rombí læchrad Lūagne*.

[2] As to the name, cf. Conall Gulban Guirt *nō* Foibni, Rawl. B. 502, p. 139*b*50.

[3] Cath Saxonum la hAedān, ubi cecidit Eanfraith frater Etalfraich la Maeluma mac Baedān, in quo uictus erat,' Tigernach's Annals (Rev. Celt. XVII., p. 163).

[4] See D'Arbois de Jubainville, Catalogue, p. 119. [5] ib., p. 210.

Fiachna son of Báitán to Dún Gúairi in the land of the Saxons.' The hero of this tale was a son of king Báitán of Ulster who, according to the Annals of Ulster, died either in 581 or 587. He had extended his rule to Britain, and Aedán mac Gabráin had to pay him homage, if we may credit a poem in Rawl. B. 502, p. 156*b*39 :—

Muiredach Muinderg, mīad mas, ocus Cairell crūadamnas,
ba rī Bāetān cosin blaid for hErind is for Albain.
Gūallastar do Bāetān bān arddrī na hAlban Aedān
ic Ross na Rīg, rād ṅglan ṅglē, i n-airthiurtūaisciurt S[h]emne.

'Muiredach Redneck—stately dignity—and Cairell harsh and fierce, Baetan was king with fame over Ireland and Alba.

'Aedan, the high-king of Alba, did homage to noble Baetan at Rosnaree—a pure brilliant saying—in the north-east of Semne.'[1]

Dún Gúairi is the Irish form of the O. Welsh *Din Guayroi*[2] (Nennius, ed. Mommsen, p. 205), said to be the modern Bamborough. In the Annals of Ulster (622) it is called *Ráth Gúali.* Its destruction took place in 632. The war-band of this Fiachna is expressly called *fían mac Báetáin* in a poem quoted by Tigernach (Rev. Celt. xviii., p. 159) ; and in the same way I have no doubt that the bands of *Scotti* who made common cause with the Picts in the third and fourth centuries in harassing Roman Britain were also called *fiana.*

It is natural that the various *fiana* and their chiefs, from their roving life, their adventures and exploits, should early have become the subject of story-telling. Many such stories have doubtlessly been lost, just as nothing is known to us of most of the famous leaders of *fiana* mentioned above.

It is often tacitly assumed by modern writers that the term *fíana* wherever it occurs in Irish literature refers to the war-band headed by Finn úa Báiscni, or mac Cumaill, as he came to be called later, which, it is true, has in the development of Irish legend ousted all recollection of other *fíana.* Again, by some writers the ordinary meaning of the word has so far been forgotten that they

[1] Island Magee.

[2] guayrdi MS.

actually speak of the *fiana* as a 'race.'[1] But even so late as the tenth century Finn and his *fiana* were only one among several well-known similar bands. Thus the poet Flann mac Máilmáedóc, erenagh of Glenn Uisen, who died in 977, in a poem[2] preserved in Rawlinson B. 502, p. 88 *a*, enumerates three famous *fiana* of Leinster:—

Fīanna Find, fāth cen timme, hūi Bāiscne brecctais rinne,
fianna Foilṅge,[3] forom ṅglē, fianna Fothaid Canainne.

Many of those who have written on the origin and development of the Ossianic cycle have based their investigations almost exclusively upon the tradition of the twelfth and following centuries, quite forgetting or ignoring the fact that this later phase is preceded by centuries of gradual growth from small and obscure beginnings, in which Finn and his *fiana* do not play the part assigned to them by the later and modern legend. The figure of Finn, who in popular imagination early superseded Cúchulinn and all the heroes of the Red Branch, has attracted to itself, from century to century, folklore of the most varied character. The whole history of Ireland has left its deposits in the formation of the new cycle of which he became the centre, while at the same time it absorbed much of the legendary lore of the older cycles. When Finn is once fully established in popular favour, all Ireland claims him as her own; pedigrees are invented for him that bring him into relation with almost all the provinces, with the most famous royal dynasties, and with Tara, until at last he becomes a national hero, and his *fiana* the *fiana Érenn*. To attempt from late accounts to trace racial distinctions or mythical influences in this heterogeneous mass of legends seems to me a futile endeavour, only apt to make confusion worse confounded. To deal with

[1] 'These early *fiana*, the race to which Cumhall and Fionn belonged,' J. MacNeill, Duanaire Finn, p. xxxii.

[2] This poem seems to have been composed in the life-time of Donnchad mac Flainn, King of Ireland († 944), who is mentioned in the last stanza as *Donnchad Temra*.

[3] Who Foilnge was I do not know. So far I have never met his name elsewhere.

this bewildering mass of undigested material we need a guiding principle. Perhaps in the present state of our knowledge nothing will help us so much as an attempt to state what material has actually come down to us, where it is to be found, and, if possible, to date it.

It has often occurred to me that the publication of the facsimiles by the Royal Irish Academy, greatly as it has advanced Irish research in many directions, may also be said to have retarded its progress in some respects. For the idea seems to have taken root among many students of Irish that in these volumes, and in them alone, the oldest specimens of Irish literature are to be found. The remarks made by the late Professor Atkinson in the introduction to the facsimile of the Yellow Book of Lecan on the limitations and the paucity of existing Irish literature, may also be responsible for the wrong notion that there is little new material to be found outside these great tomes.

It is the object of this volume to draw attention to the existence of the oldest accounts of Finn, and to the gradual growth of the cycle connected with him. For this purpose I have collected a few specimens of hitherto unpublished texts, which I shall now supplement by a list of all accessible tales, poems, and references bearing upon our cycle known to me. These I shall arrange as nearly as I can in chronological order, though, in the absence of any investigations into the history of later Old-Irish and Middle-Irish, I shall no doubt often assign either too early or too late a date to single items.

I will put first, though somewhat doubtfully, a reference to Finn which tradition assigns to the

Seventh Century.

I. This occurs in the fragment of an old alliterative poem ascribed to the well-known poet Senchán Torpéist, preserved in a genealogical tract[1] in Rawl. B. 502 and LL. It is quoted in

[1] When these genealogies were compiled it is difficult to say. In a foot-note in LL. p. 336, they are said to have been collected by [Co]lmān mac Dūach *meic* rīg Connacht, ollam 7 fâid 7 suí senchassa Gœdel 7 suí ecnai. But I do not know when he lived.

corroboration of Finn's pedigree. The composition from which it is taken is called *Cocangab Már*[1] or the 'Great Compilation or Compendium.'

(Rawl. p. 118*a* 47 = LL. p. 311*c*.)

Nūada Necht tra in cethramad mac Sētnai Sithbaicc, is ūad atā bunad Lagen 7 ba rī Temro se. Is leis docer Etarscēla Mór mac hIeir rī hĒrenn in Ailind .i. ar Lugdaig Reo ṅderg dogēne Nūadu in gnīm sin. Is īarum rogab Lugaid rīgi nĒrenn, 7 is hūa dond Nūadait Necht in Find hūa Bāiscne 7 Cāilte, a*mail* rodemnig Senchān Torpēist isin chocangaib māir dicens:—

[Find mac Camaill (sic) m*aic* Trēnmōir m*aic* Suailt m*aic* Eltaim m*aic* Bāiscne m*aic* Nūadat Necht m*aic* Sētnai Sithbaicc.][2]

Find Taulcha tūath cuire Cāilte crothsait cres ṁbodbæ bārcaib di thonnaib trī hūi Bāiscni (.i. Find 7 Oisīn mac Find 7 Cāilte, L.) būadach cuitechta condārferga (condaferta, L.) filset. trī hūi Nūadat Necht.

'From Nuadu Necht, one of the four sons of Sétna Sithbacc, is the origin of the men of Leinster, and he was King of Tara. By him at Alenn (Knockawlin) fell Etarscēla the Great, son of Iar,[3] King of Ireland, a deed which Nuadu performed on behalf of Lugaid of the Red Stripes. So Lugaid seized the kingship of Ireland. And the famous Find ua Baiscne and Cailte were grandsons of this Nūadu Necht, as Senchān Torpéist has declared in the 'Great Compilation,' *dicens*: 'Find, Tulcha,[4] a tribe of hosts, (and) Cailte shook the warlike . . . with barks from waves. Three descendants of Baiscne (viz., Find, and Oisin son of Find,

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[1] Corruptly *coigenach mār*, LL. 378*b*50. The word *cocangab* f. is a compound of *com-* and *congab*, as to which see my Contributions s. v. It occurs again in Rawl. 502, p. 159*a*20, where, after enumerating the twelve sons of Fiann Feorna and the clans descended from them, the writer says: is ī sin cocaṅgab dā treb dēc c*lainne* Flainn Feorna 'that is the compilation of the twelve tribes of the descendants of Flann Feorna.'

[2] This, the Leinster pedigree of Find, is out of place here.

[3] This name is a disyllable (e.g. mac h*ui*—leg. mocu—Ieïr Etarscēl, Rawl. B. 502, p. 88*a*30), and may well represent the Ogam ISARI (Macalister, II., p. 113).

[4] As to him, see LL., p. 379*a*46, and Macgnímartha Find, § 4.

and Cailte),[1] a victorious company . . . . . three grandsons of Nuadu Necht.'

If this 'rhetoric' is correctly quoted and rightly ascribed to Senchán, it would show that as early as the seventh century Leinster claimed Find úa Báiscne as a scion of its royal race, which was rendered possible only by a confusion of Find with Find fili mac Rossa Rúaid, great-grandson of Núadu Necht.[2] But *tri hūi Nūadat Necht* is without doubt a later addition. It comes oddly after *tri hūi Bāiscne*, and seems altogether out of place. Nuadu Necht was not fathered upon Baiscne until much later. See below, XXXVII.

Eighth Century.

The following texts belong, I think, either to the late eighth or early ninth century :—

II. 'The Quarrel between Finn and Oisin' (*Oisène*),[3] printed and translated below, pp. 24 ff. Finn is here called *úa Báiscne*.

III. 'Finn and the Man in the Tree,' printed and translated in Revue Celtique, vol. xxv., pp. 344 ff. The following words and forms will show its great antiquity: *mocu*[4] *Birgge* 1, *mocu*[4] *Daigre* 2, 4; *fortngaib* 1; *fritninnle* 1; *doinsort* 1; *a donicas* 1, 4 (sic leg.); *foopairt* 1; *fortnosmen* 1; *canmae* 1; *atacobor ide* 2 (sic leg.); *focairdd* 2; *atagega do mnái dó* (sic leg.) 'he chose her

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[1] This gloss, which is wanting in Rawl., is of course a later addition. Not recognizing that Tulcha is a proper name, the glossator makes up the requisite number by introducing Oisin.

[2] On the various pedigrees of Find, see a letter of mine to the Academy, 1 Feb., 1885, which needs, however, correction in several details.

[3] Zimmer (Zeitschr. f. d. Alterthum 35, p. 253) has endeavoured to bring the name *Ossín* from Norse *Ásvin*. But it is of undoubted Irish origin. Names in which *oss*, 'deer,' is the first element abound. Thus we find *Os-bran* (AU. 751), *Os-chú*, *Os-fer* (BB. 146*c*), *Os-gen*. *Ossín*, like *Ossíne*, *Ossène*, *Ossán* (AU. 687, Arm. 16*b*1) is a pet form of any name beginning with *Oss-*. The various diminutive suffixes, *-ín*, *-íne*, &c., are used indifferently of the same person, just as in German a girl may be called *Gretchen* or *Gretel* or *Gretelein*. Zimmer (l. c. p. 254) looks upon *Osbran* as an Irish adaptation of Old English *Osbrand*. But in genuine borrowings from Old English the long *ō* is kept in Irish, as e.g. in *Ósalt*, LU. 93,26, from O. E. *Ōsweald*.

[4] The MS. has *mac húi*.

for his wife' 2; *céin fonnuithea* 2; *fomchialta* 2; *cotsáid* 2; *os é* 3; *do-icsed* 3; *nínathgéntar* 3; *friscomarca*[*i*]*r* 3; *fortnosna* 4. Finn is called *úa Báiscni.*

IV. 'Reicne Fothaid Canainne,' printed and translated below, pp. 10 ff. Here, in § 38, Find is mentioned, and the gift of discovering hidden treasures, 'after drinking wine'—*iar n-ól fína*—is ascribed to him.

Ninth Century.

V. 'How Finn obtained knowledge, and the Death of the Fairy Cúldub,' printed and translated in Revue Celtique, vol. xiv, pp. 245 ff. There is a good and complete version of this tale in YBL. 212*b*. Old-Irish forms: *sóithi*, l. 6; *fanácaib*, l. 9; *cranna* l. 17; *arasiuir* (?) ll. 5, 9.

VI. 'Bruiden Átha,' printed and translated ibidem, pp. 242 ff. There is another copy in YBL. 212*a*. Notice the Old-Irish forms *condatuc*, l. 4; *condaruc*, l. 10; *domrecma*, l. 42; *tormenar*, l. 43; *atoncomnaic*, l. 45; *lie*, YBL. 212*a*49; *focicertsa*, leg. *focicherr*, ib. l. 48.

VII. 'Find and the jester Lomnae,' a tale preserved in Cormac's Glossary, s. v. Orc tṙéith. I print it here from YBL. 277*a*.

Orc nomen do bradán, unde dixit cend Lomnae drūith īarna bēimeim de: 'Orc brec bronnfind brūcḷtas do magar fo muirib nī labar nī toe tūathe torc nad ric roimsi rorannais raind nad cert Corpri.' Is de di*diu* būe indnī sin. Find ūa Báiscni, is dó ropad drūth Lomna midlag. Luid di*diu* laithe n-and Find for cūairt selga. Dorūaraid Lomnae i bfus. Būi bean do Luignib la Find arón ém cach roilbe 7 cach rofid nognāthaiged Finn cona fēin nobīth ben aurdalta ar a chind in cach thīr ba nessam dō beus. Bātir banbrugaid sōn 7 bat*ar* maithi do imfulung na fían, ar nolethad a n-anae tar na tīrib conā laimed nech olc friu. Teccomnacuir di*diu* Find fecht n-and i Tethbai cona fēin 7 luidh for cūairt selgae 7 dorrūaraid Lomnae i fuss. A mbūi side oc imt[h]echt ammuigh co farnic Corpri fēinnid i lligi la mnāi Find i tāidhe. Roguid di*diu* an ben do Lomnae a dīchlidh 7 ba saoth lais-som brath Find. Tic Find īarom, benaid di*diu* Lomnae

ogum i fleisc cetharc[h]uir. Is ed būi i suidiu: Cūaille feda i feilm arguit, ath[aba] i fothracht fer mnā drūithe. druthlach la Fēne foirethi is fraoch for hualann l[u]imm Luigne.

Rofit*ir* di*diu* Find a scēl 7 ba dognasach don mnāi. Rofit*ir* di*diu* in ben ba ō Lomnae rofes. Docōass īarom ō suide co Corpri co tudchaid side co romarb an drūth 7 co tall a c[h]enn de *co* *m*bert lais. Tic Find do ūarboith dēud lāi co farnic in colann cen c[h]end. 'Colund sund cin c[h]end!' ol Find. 'Findtae dūn,' ol in fīan, 'cōich in choland.' Dobert īarom Find a orduin ina beolau 7 dochain tria teinm laodæ, co n-epert: 'Nīcon ruba dōine, nīcon arlaig, nīco topaig nais, nīcu derg raigi, nīcon ruba torc, nīcon fornae, nīcon torgrae, nīcu rarbarrt a ligbe Lomnæ. Colann Lomnæ so,' ol Find, '7 ronucsat nāmait a c[h]end de.'

Ticsat dona conuib 7 doslēicet[1] for slicht na n-ōg 7 fosfūair i fāstigh oc fuine ēisc for indiūin 7 būi cend Lomnæ for bir ocon teinid. In cētlucht di*diu* rolāad don indiūin ranntæ Corpri dia trib nōnbaruib 7 nī thardad dantmīr i mbeolu in chind olsoduin.[2] Ba geis la Find. Is andsin īarom asbert a cend friu: 'Oirc brec broindfind brūchtas di magar fo muirib' .i. bradān di magar, is ed a domnae. In lucht tānaise dorala don teinid nō don indiūin randais Corpri iterum priori modo, co clos nī dano in cend: 'Rorandais raind fond n-aile n-athraind raind athbaig īar muig medba mos ba toich mo mīr metail bit fuaitne fīanna lib Luigne.' 'Cuirid amach a cend, sech is mīfocal dūn!' ol Corpri. Co clos nī, a cend do muigh: 'Romechtar cleith curi rith rurtech aga catha cetamba mescbaid ba cummæ lib mo agea ba *co* *n*dimdæ bid mo ag tein doalassfaid Luigne la Find.'

La sin dodechaid Find cucu conidromarb.

VIII. An anecdote about Find úa Báiscni as a member of Lugaid Mac Con's *fian*, told in Cormac's Glossary s. v. *rincne*. I print it here from YBL. 280*a*.

Rincne quasi quinque. Unde dicitur: Ferches mac Mosecis dixit intan bōi Find ūa Bāiscni oc āirim cach cōicir arnūair do

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[1] dosleicit MS.

[2] Cf. with this the similar situation in *Aided Finn*, CZ. I., p. 465, evidently modelled upon the older story.

slūag Luigdech *maic* Macniadh do chuinchidh ind fēnnedo .i. Ferquis. Adacht Ferchess trēn fo a chnāmæ sech Fin*d* 7 dollēici in slig for Lugaid conidromarb 7 asbert occa rincne quasi carincne rus rīg .i. ar ba heth atbeir*ed* Fin*d* beus ōtrīmed cach cōicer a ūair. Rincni quasi quinque.

The same incident is told in the story about Ailill Aulom, Mac Con, and Find, printed and translated infra, pp. 28 ff. See p. 38. Zimmer (Keltische Beiträge III., Zeitschr. f. d. Alterthum, vol. 35, p. 115) considers this rightly as a later insertion.[1] Notice the form *Usīne* for the usual *Ossíne* (p. 36, l. 24). Cáilte is called *cáinchass*, not *coslúath* as usually. The story ends with the slaying of Ferchess at the hands of Find.

IX. A poem in LL. 163*b*, ascribed to Maelmuru Othna († 887), on the dindṡenchas of Áth Liac Find. Its language points to the ninth century. Here for the first time Finn is called—not mac Cumaill, but—*mac Umaill*. That this is not a clerical mistake is proved by the alliteration (*mac Umaill altmóir*), and further by the careful scribe of Rawlinson B. 502 twice writing *mac Humaill* (p. 128*b*9). Besides, in a poem printed in Gwynn's Metrical Dindshenchas (II., p. 78), alliteration demands that we should read *mac Umaill* instead of *mac Cumaill* (*fían meic Umaill enechnáir*). Ossín is here called Gúaire Goll ('Blind Guaire'), as in 'Finn and the Phantoms' (Rev. Celt. VIII., pp. 289, 300).

X. A poem in YBL. 125*a*, ascribed to Flannacán mac Cellaig, King of Bregia († 896), in which the deaths of famous heroes are enumerated according to the days of the week on which they took place, mentions those of Find and Crimall[2] as having occurred on a Wednesday (p. 125*b*11 and 13). Here for the first time the name alone without the patronymic suffices to indicate the famous warrior.

XI. The story printed and translated in my edition of the Voyage of Bran, vol. I., p. 45, according to which Mongán and

[1] To the texts quoted by him, in which there is no mention of Finn in connexion with Lugaid mac Con, or the death of Ferchess mac Commáin, we may add a poem in LL. 146*a*, beginning *Apair ri sil nEogain Máir*.

[2] Evidently Crimall mac Tréinmóir, Finn's paternal uncle. See Maegn. F., §§ 16 and 17. The story of his death seems lost.

Finn mac Cumaill (sic!) are said to have been the same person. Cáilte is introduced as the slayer of Fothad Airgthech at Ollarba, of which the older tradition knows nothing. He is called *dalta Find*. He and Finn had come from Alba to Ollarba.

Tenth Century.

XII. An anecdote about Finn and the boar of Druimm Leithe in the Triads of Ireland, § 236. Here again Finn is named without his patronymic. He appears in the character of a hunter.

XIII. In a poem on the cemetery at Brug on the Boyne, preserved in LU. 51*b*, and ascribed to Cináed úa Hartacáin, the death of Finn at the hands of the Lúaigne is thus referred to:—

Hi Fertai na Fāilend fand, is and romāided in glond,
mōr in gnīm, núalle do rind, ēcht Find for[1] fēin Lúagni lond.

The same author mentions the death of Finn by the fian Lúagne at Ath Brea on the Boyne, in his poem beginning *Fíana bátar i nEmain*. See Stokes's edition in Rev. Celt. xxiii., p. 310. It is perhaps worthy of note that Mongán and Finn are here coupled together in the same quatrain. It should also be stated that none of the other 'Fenian' heroes, neither Cáilte, nor Ossín, nor Oscar, is mentioned among the seventy odd heroes enumerated by Cinaed; and that the quatrain beginning *Ilobíth Finn*, which says that Finn's head was cut off by Aiclech mac Duibrenn, is a later addition, only found in LL. The gloss in Egerton 1782 (l.c. p. 328) mentions two different versions of the death of Finn. In the course of time there came to be at least three.

XIV. Two poems on the dindṡenchas of Almu (the Hill of Allen), printed and translated by Edward Gwynn, The Metrical Dindshenchas, vol. ii., pp. 72 ff. In the first Finn is surnamed *mac Cumaill*; in the second, *mac Umaill*. In the first Almu is the wife of Núadu mac Aiched; in the second, of Iuchna.

XV. A poem on the dindṡenchas of Fornocht, placed in the mouth of Finn (Find. cc.), LL. 193*a*33. See below, xxxix.

XVI. An anonymous poem on the dindṡenchas of Ráith

[1] Read *la*.

Chnámrossa (LL. 195*a*). See below, xxxix. Here Find is called *mac Cumaill* (l. 45) and *flaith na fer* (l. 47).

XVII. A poem on the dindšenchas of Tipra Sengarmna 7 *a haided cona cethrur* 7 *cumrech Ossīne* (LL. 197*a*53) ascribed in Dinds. § 52 to Fergus Fínbél, who here appears for the first time as the poet of the 'Fenians.' Find is here called *rí fían* (p. 197*b*50). Slechtaire, the son of Sengarman, is referred to in Rawl. B. 502, p. 121*a*31, as *Slechtaire qui cecidit la Find.*

XVIII. 'Finn and Gráinne,' printed and translated in CZ. vol. I., p. 458. Finn is surnamed úa Báiscni. Grainne, who is being wooed by Finn, whom she hates, demands as her bridal gift that a couple of every wild animal should be brought to the rampart of Tara. Cáilte coslúath performs this feat. The pedigree of Cáilte is given thus: mac Oisgein nó Conscein m. na Cerda di Muscraigi Dotrut .i. mac sidi ingine Cumaill. 'Then, in an unlucky hour, Grainne was given to Finn; for they never lived in peace until they separated.' The piece perhaps belongs to the ninth century.

XIX. The prose version of 'Finn and the Phantoms,' edited and translated by L. C. Stern in Rev. Celt., vol. xiii., pp. 5 ff. Perhaps the text is as old as the ninth century. The beginning is wanting. Cáilte and Oisín are mentioned, but not Oscar.

XX. In an anonymous poem on the exploits of Leinster against Leth Cuinn, preserved in LL. 48*b*, some of Finn's and Cáilte's deeds are mentioned as follows:—

la Cáilte coslúath caírpdech docer Fothad Findairgdech.
Aed mac Fidaig[1] di láim Find di šleig Fīaclaig meic Conchind,
ar in grád—nī chél ane— dorat d'ingin Breg Éile.
Din tšleig cétna romarb Find Cúldub mac Fidga forfind,
din gæ sin romarbtha thall Deicell find aithech Érand.

These are incidents told more fully in *Macgnimartha Find.* See below, lxiii.

XXI. A poem on winter, ascribed to Finn, quoted in the commentary on the Amra Coluim Chille (Rev. Celt. xx., p. 258), and another on summer, embodied in *Macgnimartha Find.*

[1] The grave of Aed mac Fidaig is mentioned in Broccán Cráibdech's (tenth century) poem on the burial-places of famous heroes, LL. 43*b*28.

XXII. A poem, printed and translated infra, pp. 42 ff., which I would ascribe to Erard mac Coisse († 990), as it resembles his poem addressed to Derb-áil (CZ VI., p. 269) both in language, style, and treatment of a similar subject. In it he consoles Mór, daughter of Donnchad, on the loss of a pet goose. A lady of this name was queen of Ireland, i.e. evidently wife of Maelsechlainn, and died, according to the Four Masters, in 985. Her father seems to have been Donnchad mac Cellaig, King of Ossory († 976). Among the departed heroes mentioned by the poet are Mongán, Fothad Canann, and the '*rígḟéinnid*, whose name was Finn, leader of the *fían*.'

In the tenth-century list of tales, printed by D'Arbois de Jubainville (Catalogue, pp. 260 ff.),[1] the following titles of tales referring to Finn are found:—

XXIII. Tochmarc Ailbe ingine Cormac hui Chuind la Find húa mBáiscne. Still unpublished (H. 3. 17, pp. 827–831).

XXIV. Aithed Grāinne ingine Corbmaic la Dīarmait hūa nDuibni.[2] Two quatrains quoted in the commentary on the Amra Coluim Chille,[3] one spoken by Gráinne, the other by Diarmait, evidently come out of this tale well known in its modern form as *Tóruigheacht Dhiarmuda agus Gráinne*.

In another list of tales in LL. p. 189*c*, we find:

XXV. Úath Beinne Étair. This tale is preserved in three copies, one in 23 N 10 (vellum), p. 13, another in C. III. 2, fo. 10*a*, and a third in Harl. 5280, fo. 35*a*. From the latter MS. I published and translated it in Rev. Celt. xi, p. 125 ff.[4]

XXVI. Úath Dercce Ferna, no doubt identical with Echtra Find i nDerc Ferna (ib.). This tale is lost.

A few other tales in these lists, the mere titles of which do not

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[1] See also Anecdota, vol. II., pp. 43 ff.

[2] In Rawl. B 502, p. 121*a*32, Diarmait is stated to have been the son of Dub mac Duibni and Cochrann, daughter of Cuirrech (Life) mac Cathâir Máir. This agrees with a verse in LL. p. 164*a* marg. sup.:—

mātha[i]r Dīarmata ōn dáil ingen Churrig meic Chathâir.

[3] See Stokes's edition, Rev. Celt. xx, pp. 154 and 264. Cf. Rev. Celt. XI., p. 126.

[4] Cf. the corrections printed in 'Four Songs,' p. 16.

convey sufficient information, may have belonged to our cycle. But, contrasted with the large number of tales quoted from the heroic and mythological cycles, the Find legend is but sparsely represented.

XXVII. The fragment of the 'Death of Finn,' printed and translated in CZ. I., p. 464, according to which he lost his life in attempting as an old man to leap the Boyne at a place called *Lêimm Find*. 'Fishermen of the Boyne found him. They were four, viz., the three sons of Urgriu and Aiclech, the son of Dub Drenn. The latter cut off his head, for which he was slain by the sons of Urgriu.' This is also the purport of a quatrain preserved in LL. 164 marg. sup.:—

Rodíchned Find, ba fer tend, oaoclæch (sic) mac Duib Drend,
is robenad de a chend ō maccaib ānaib Urgrend.

Eleventh Century.

XXVIII. A poem by Cúán úa Lothcháin († 1024) on the dindšenchas of Carn Furbaidi and Slíab Uillenn (LL. 199*a*35), in which Uillend Fæburderg mac Find húi Báiscni is mentioned as having given his name to the latter place.

XXIX. In the treatise on Irish Metrics,[1] edited by Thurneysen (Ir. T. III., p. 66), Find húa Báiscne is mentioned as one of twelve famous poets.

XXX. 'Fotha Catha Cnucha,' only preserved in one copy in LU., p. 41, printed and translated by W. H. Hennessy in Rev. Celt. vol. II., pp. 86 ff., and again edited by Windisch in his Irish Grammar, p. 121. It contains quotations from the first poem on Almu in the Metrical Dindshenchas. See above, XIV.

XXXI. 'Finn and the Phantoms,' a poem placed in the mouth of Ossín, called Gúaire Goll in his old age, edited and translated by Wh. Stokes in Rev. Celt. VII., pp. 289 ff. Finn is here named *mac Cumaill Almaine* (l. 120), and addressed as *a ardrí* (l. 41), *a flaith na fían* (l. 44).

[1] Though evidently based upon older material, this treatise cannot have been composed before the end of the tenth or the beginning of the eleventh century, as on p. 71 it quotes a poem in praise of Maelsechlainn mac Domnaill († 1022).

XXXII. The birth of Ossin, two quatrains on the upper margin of LL. 164:

Māthair Dīarmata ōn dáil ingen Churrig *meic* Chathāir,
is Blāi Derg din Banbai braiss māthair Ossīne amnaiss.
Ticed [Blāi] i rricht eilte hi comdáil na díbergge,
co ndernad Ossīne de ri Blāi ṅDeirgg i rricht eilte.

XXXIII. In the notes on Félire Óengusso (1. edition, p. clxx, 11), Finn mac Cumaill is introduced prophesying at a feast given by Mael mac Iachtadon meic Mornai at Cúil Muilt,[1] of the coming of Findchú (or Mochúa Find), in verses beginning—

Ticfa sund oilithrech.

XXXIV. In the Irish Ordeals (Ir. Texte III., p. 199) Finn úa Báiscni is mentioned as chief among the 150 *rigféindid* appointed by Cormac mac Airt.

XXXV. In Gilla Coemain's poem, beginning *Annálad anall uile*, composed in 1072 (ed. Stokes, Trip. Life, pp. 530 ff.), the death of Finn is mentioned as follows:—

Secht mbliadna cōicat cen chrád ó chath Mucrima na mmál
co torchair Find leo cīar fell do rennaib trī mac Urgrenn.
Cóic blíadna cethorchat cáin íar marbad Find a hAlmain
co maidm Duib Chommair calma lasna Coll*aib*[2] cathchalma.

XXXVI. Under the year 283 the Annals of Tigernach († 1088) mention the death of Find húa Báiscni at the hands of Aichlech (sic) mac Duib Drenn and of the sons of Uirgriu of the Luaigne of Tara, at Áth Brea on the Boyne. See Stokes's edition, Rev. Celt., vol. XVII., p. 21. This is the only mention of Finn in the Annals.

Twelfth Century.

XXXVII. Tesmolta Cormaic ui Chuinn ocus Aided Finn meic Chumaill, edited in the appendix to Cath Finntrágha, pp. 72 ff., and in Silva Gadelica I., pp. 89 ff.; translated ib. II., pp. 96 ff. Here Finn mac Cumaill figures as *táisech teglaig 7 amus*

[1] In Fermoy, later called Brí Gobann.
[2] Stokes prints Coll*u*, but rhyme with *Chommair* is intended.

7 *gilla con la Cormac.* He lives on the Hill of Allen; Smirgat,[1] daughter of Fothad Cananne, is his wife. He falls at Brea on the Boyne, in battle with the Luagne Temrach, the three sons of Urgriu and Aiclech mac Duib Drenn, who cut off his head. 'This, then, according to archæological verity, and as experts relate it, is Finn's death; but his origin they declare variously. Some of them say that he was of the Corco Oche of the Ui Fidgeinte; others, again, assert (and this is the truth of the matter) that he was of the Ui Thairrsig of Offaly, who were Aithechthuatha (rent-paying tribes), as Maelmura has said in the chronicle.[2] They of Leinster, however, state that Finn was great-grandson to Nuadu Necht, and that his pedigree is this: Finn, son of Cumall, son of Sualtach (son of Eltam), son of Baiscne, son of Nuadu Necht.'[3]

XXXVIII. The Bóroma (Rev. Celt., vol. xiii, pp. 36 ff.) introduces Find mac Cumaill *rigfénid Érenn* and his *fían*, who are asked by Bresal Bélach, king of Leinster († 436 AU.), to assist him against Cairpre Lifechar! Finn converses with Moling († 697), so that well-known historical personages who lived centuries apart are brought together. Two poems (LL. p. 297*b* and p. 298*b*) are attributed to Finn.

XXXIX. In the prose Dindsenchas the following four stories deal with Finn and his warriors. (1) The Death of Uinche Ochurbél at the hands of Finn, Oisíne and Cáilte (Fornocht § 27); (2) Móer sends love-charms to Finn (Ráith Cnámrossa § 31); (3) The Death of Finn's fostermother Mongfind, Oisín's captivity at the hands of Slechtaire and his deliverance by Finn (Tipra Sengarman, § 52); (4) The story of a stone with a chain of gold given to Finn mac Cumaill by the fairy Sideng (Áth Liac Find, § 139). Cf. Mael-muru's poem above IX. In § 88 (Carn Furbaidi) Find húa Báiscne is said to have been the father of Uillenn Fáeborderg. Cf. Cúán úa Lothcháin's poem above, XXVIII.

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[1] In LL. p. 139*a* she is called *Smirnat.*

[2] i.e. in his poem (called *crónic*) beginning *Canam bunadas na nGáedel*, LL. 135*a*21. The stanza here quoted is corrupt in all copies. See Todd, Irish Nennius, p. 268.

[3] O'Grady's translation slightly altered in details.

XL. A poem in LL. 207*b* on a wonderful hound brought from Irúaith, published and translated by L. C. Stern in the Festschrift für Wh. Stokes, pp. 7 ff. Cf. CZ. III., p. 433.

XLI. An anonymous poem on the dindšenchas of Snám Dá Én in LL. 203*a*27 (death of Aed mac Rónáin).

XLII. A poem attributed to Finn (F. cc.) in LL. 192*b* on the dindšenchas of Róiriu i nHúib Failge.

XLIII. Macgnímartha Finn, edited in Rev. Celt., vol. v., pp. 197–204, translated in Ériu, vol. I., pp. 180–190.

XLIV. A poem ascribed to Oisín, published and translated in Rev. Celt. VI., p. 186, in which the son of Finn is introduced as an old man converted to Christianity complaining of the loss of his strength and remembering the glorious days of old. I would now translate the first three verses as follows—the last is still obscure to me:—

'These arms have been withered, my deeds have been quelled—the tide has come, it has reached the shore and has drowned my strength.

'I give thanks to the Creator: I have found[1] solace with great joy. Long is my day in a wretched life—there was a time when it was delightful with me.

'I was the beauty of the assembly, I found[1] stealthy women of giving—I am[2] not loath to leave this world—gone is my sportive course.'

XLV. The episode in Gilla in Chomded's poem dealing with Finn, printed and translated below, pp. 46 ff. The poem, which is unfortunately preserved in a single copy only (LL. p. 143*a*–145*a*), purports to be a rapid sketch of universal history in the form of 160 *cesta* or problems, a sort of medieval examination paper, only that it also gives the answers to the questions. The East, Greece, and Rome are first dealt with. The usual synchronisms with Irish kings are given, and then Irish history and romance are taken up. But it is a confused piece of work, and cannot compare with similar older poems such as those by Dublittir or Airbertach mac Coisse. At the end of the poem we have the important statement that

[1] Read *fúar*. [2] Read *atú*.

there were no less than 120 stories relating to the *fiana* which every genuine *fili* could recite (*sē fichit findscél na fiann foclas cech fili fírían*[1]). This is a very different state of things from the meagre number of epic tales relating to this cycle mentioned in the tenth-century list of tales. It shows how greatly during the two intervening centuries the legend had developed.

XLVI. Gilla Modutu († 1143), in his poem on celebrated women, thus mentions Finn's mother and his wives (LL. 139*a*5):—

Murni munchæm, maith a monor, māthair Find, fíannamail flaith,
do śíl Taide meic Nūadat nertmair ingen ríg rechtmair in raith,
nucu chured forlond furri, is Bodball a mummi maith.
Smirnat Moṅgfind, Albi Grūadbrec, Badamair co mbāid nár briss,
is īat sin mná Find co fedaib nār thim ra cnedaib a cnis,
Áni ingen Find ben Echach, Gāini grind a rethach riss.

XLVII. In the *Bansenchas Érenn* (BB. p. 284*b*) we have the following account of Finn's women folk:—

Tarbdha[2] ingen Eochaman de Ernaibh māthair Find meic Gleōir rīgh Lāmraighe Ulad 7 māthair Find ūa (*sic*) Bāiscne.

Grāinne ingen Cormaic ūa Cuind ben Find ūa Bāiscne 7 ba ben do Diarmaid ūa Duibhne iardain. Ba ben do Find ina diaidhsein Aillbhe Grūadhbrec, ingen ele Cormaic. Gomadh hí Muirne Munchæm ingen Taidhg meic Nūadhat māthair Find meic Cumaill. Ba ben do Find Badhamair ingen Lugair iascaire. Is sidhe [romarb] Currech Life, conadh ina dīgail-si romarb Cuirrech. Ba ben do Find Smirnat ingen Fothaid Canainde. Is í forfogart do Find a āis do t[h]echt.

XLVIII. The story of Mac Lesc mac Ladáin and Finn, published and translated in 'Four Songs of Summer and Winter,' p. 18.

XLIX. A poem on the dindsenchas of Mag Dá Géise, ascribed to Find mac Cumaill (LL. p. 192*a*) printed in Ir. Texte, vol. I., p. 160.

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[1] fírial Fes. [2] In Macgn. Finn, § 1, she is called Torba.

L. A poem on the battle of Gabair Aichle, ascribed to Oscur in LL. 154*a*, printed by Windisch in Ir. Texte, vol. I., p. 160. In none of the historical accounts of this battle is there any mention of Oscar and the *fían*. Tigernach states that Carpre Lifechair fell in the battle by Seniach mac Fir Chirb[1] do Fothartaib.

LI. A poem in *bérla na filed* on the boar of Muir Talláin, ascribed to Ossín (LL. 108*a*), printed in Ir. Texte, vol. I., p. 162.[2]

LII. A poem in *bérla na filed* ascribed to Cáilte in his old age (LL. 208*a*), printed and translated in Ériu, vol. I., p. 72.

LIII. The Conversion of the *fiana*, a poem ascribed to Ossín, published and translated in CZ. v., p. 180, by L. C. Stern from the only extant copy in Laud 610.

LIV. A poem on the dindṡenchas of Tonn Clidna ascribed to Cáilte, BB. 374*b*, as follows :—amail rocan Cáilti for an dind cétna i n-aimsir Pātraicc ar a n-agallaim éccsamail ingantaigh dorōnsat ar dindṡenchas Ērenn. This is the oldest mention of the Acallam na Senōrach known to me. The poem will be found in Stokes's edition of the Acallamh, ll. 3833 ff.

LV. Áirem muintire Finn, printed in Silva Gadelica, vol. I., pp. 92, 93, translated ib., vol. II., pp. 99, 100, dealing with the conditions (*giallcherdacht*) on which reception into the *fiana* depended. Finn is called the seventh King of Ireland, those of the five provinces and the high-king being the other six. A large number of his officers are enumerated by name.

LVI. Fianṡruth, i.e. two alphabetically arranged lists of members of Finn's *fiana*, with an introduction (YBL. 119*a* and p. 325*a*), printed and translated by L. C. Stern in CZ. I., pp. 471 ff.

LVII. A poem of eighty-eight stanzas in LL. 204*a*, ascribed to Finn mac Cumaill, on the exploits of Goll mac Mornai Glinne Garad. Here among those slain by Goll two Norsemen Báre and Raibne (204*b*9 and 16) are mentioned.

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[1] On this personage see a note in my edition of the Expulsion of the Déssi, p. 133.

[2] Quotations from this poem are found in O'Davoren's Glossary, s. v. cinnes, cribuis, genam. See H. Ebel, Rev. Celt. II., p. 470.

THIRTEENTH AND FOURTEENTH CENTURIES.

LVIII. Acallam na Senórach, edited and translated by S. H. O'Grady in Silva Gadelica, vol. I., pp. 94–233, vol. II., pp. 101–265, and by Wh. Stokes, Ir. Texte IV. See above LIV. Whatever the exact date of its composition may be, it must be later than 1142; since the monastery of Droichet Átha, founded in that year, is mentioned (SG. I., p. 95, 18). Douglas Hyde has found a second equally long Acallam of different contents.

I conclude this rapid survey, in which I hope I have not inadvertently left out any important item, with the last piece printed and translated below on pp. 52 ff.

LIX. The Chase of Slieve na mBan is the title and subject of a well-known modern poem published by the Ossianic Society in vol. VI., pp. 126 ff., of their Transactions. A much older prose version is to be found in Egerton 1782. This, as appears from a marginal entry on fo. 24*a*, was written in 1419 at Poulmounty in Carlow.[1] Its chief interest lies perhaps in this that it concludes with a version of the Death of Finn differing from those mentioned above, XIII, XXVII, and XXXVII. Like all the other versions of Finn's death-story, it is incomplete, breaking off abruptly at the end.

I must not conclude without thanking my friends, Professors Osborn Bergin and Rudolf Thurneysen, for much valuable help kindly rendered, especially in the difficult *Reicne Fothaid Chanainne*.

K. M.

LIVERPOOL, *July, 1910.*

[1] This entry runs as follows:—Poll in Móintigh mo log graifn*id* oidchi féli Moling. A*nno domini* 1419. Dr. Edmund Hogan has identified the place in his Onomasticon s. v. Poll in móintigh.

I. Reicne Fothaid Canainne

This is the title by which the following remarkable poem, here printed and translated for the first time, seems to have been known in Irish literature.[1] The only copy in which, so far as I know, this poem has come down to us is found in a paper manuscript marked B. IV. 2 in the library of the Royal Irish Academy. This is a valuable and in many respects unique collection of historical, bardic, and religious poems made by Michael O'Clery, of which I have given some account and from which I have printed some extracts in the *Archiv für celtische Lexikographie*, vol. iii, p. 302 ff. It is another instance of an old and once apparently well-known poem having survived in a single and late copy only. For there can be no doubt that it was composed during the Old-Irish period. As far as the present state of our knowledge enables me to judge I should date it about the end of the ninth or the beginning of the tenth century. As the old forms are collected and commented on in the notes, I will here only speak about the final vowels in the rhymes, which Strachan has made the criterion of age in a paper on the Félire 'Oenguso in the *Revue Celtique*, vol. xx, p. 191 ff. So far as these rhymes can be controlled it will be seen that they represent a vocalism which is essentially that of the ninth century.

E : E.

amne : *tairiste* (pret. subj. pass. sg.) 6
aithle : *Mugairne* 16
suide (acc. sg. m.) : *crólige* (nom. sg.) 16
glé : *deogbaire* (nom. du.) 19
dige : *tuile* (acc. sg.) 20
ōige : *cotanasōide* 42
ainfe (fut. sg. 2) : *aidche* (gen. sg.) 45
gné : *aicille* (imper. sg. 2) 49

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[1] It is so called in the 46th stanza of the poem itself, and it is referred to by that title in H. 3. 17, col. 858, where the opening verse is also quoted. See below, p. 9. The original meaning of *reicne* f. seems to be 'speed,' as in the phrase *ní ba fortacht cen recni*, LU. 125*b*12. Here it denotes probably an extempore song or poem, as also Ir. T. I, p. 77 : *is and asmbered si in recni-si sís*. *Reicne roscadach* and *reicne dechubaid* are names for certain metres. See Thurneysen, Ir. Verslehren, pp. 50 and 56, and my Metrical Primer, p. 25.

AE : AE.

Cú Domnae : *comanmae* (gen. sg.) 14
inglae (nom. sg. n.) : *timnae* (acc. sg.) 46

Twice, in *debide*, *-e* rhymes with *-ae*, viz. :
aicille (imper. sg. 2) : *menmae* (nom. sg.) 1
(*cech*) *ae* : *drochlaige* (gen. sg.) 13

I : I.

nigi (acc. sg.) : *sligi* (dat. sg.) 2
cli : *cétguini* (acc. pl.) 17
fi : *cétguini* (nom. pl.) 25
li : *deogbairi* (gen. sg.) 26
suidi (acc. sg. f.) : *finndruini* (dat. sg.) 35
cumni (nom. pl.) : *Turbi* (gen. sg.) 37
atchi : *inmuini* (dat. sg.) 47

I : AI.

bi (nom. pl.) : *tigernai* (acc. pl.) 9

AI : AI.

adbai (acc. sg.) : *amrai* (dat. sg. f.) 8.

The only rhyme about which I am doubtful is *ume* (gen. sg.) : *derbluge* (acc. sg. or pl.) in stanza 25. For *ume* seems to be neuter in Old-Irish, so that we should expect *umi*, as in *Anecdota* I, p. 60, § 86 (*umi* : *druni*), which would destroy the rhyme.

As to other rhymes, I mention particularly *dá'l* : *lá'm* 3, *gá'r* : *rá'n* 10, *dóil* : *cóil* 12, *báith* : *láich* 22, *sóir* : *tóib* 28, *dóin* : *dichóim* 24, *ó'r* : *fó'l*, 27, 35. The use of *crúach*, *brúach* (2), *duaig* (5) and (*do*)*roacht* (6) for older *doríacht* as disyllables should also be noted.

On the other hand, forms like *hi fail* 16, *indasfail* 29, *nodusnig* 41, *roscarsamur* 44, if correctly handed down, point to the tenth century.

The metrical form of the poem is decidedly rude. However, in the absence of any investigations into the history of Old-Irish versification, it is impossible to draw any conclusion as to its age from this fact. The following points are noteworthy. The various stanzas show a great variety of metres. Most of them are composed in a

rude *debide*, but without any internal rhyme and only occasional alliteration.[1] When the laws of *debide* were fully established such rhymes as *aicille* : *menme* 1, *margarét* : *rét* 32 would not have been tolerated. Full rhyme often takes the place of *debide* rhyme, so that we find one couplet of a stanza composed in *debide scáilte*, another in *debide guilbnech*. This is the case with the first nine stanzas[2], while the tenth is wholly in *debide guilbnech dialtach*[3]; so also stanzas 28, 29, 34, 40, 43. The eighteenth stanza shows the same metre with disyllabic verse-ends (*recomarcach*), while the following stanzas are composed in *debide guilbnech cummaisc*[4]: 11 (with trisyllabic verse-ends in the second couplet), 12, 37, 38, 48. But non-*debide* metres occur as well. In stanza 21 we have the metre *dían airšeng* or *cummasc rannaigechta móire ocus casbairdne*[5]; in 39 *fordúan*,[6] and in 31 a mixture of *dían airšeng* and *fordúan*.

The absence of elision is also noteworthy, e.g. st. 17: frisloisc fíana a thétbann; st. 28: atá uile is fodb sóir; st. 34: de ór imdernta a beúil. But in st. 49 there is elision: is é in lon teimen tibes.

The poem is supposed to have been addressed by the spirit[7] of Fothad Canainne to the wife of Ailill Flann Bec mac Eogain, with whom he had made a tryst on the night of the very day that he fell in battle by the hand of her husband. The events leading up to the catastrophe are described in the following extract from the MS. H. 3. 17 in the library of Trinity College, col. 856 ff., a transcript of which I owe to the kindness of Mr. J. G. O'Keeffe. It should be compared with the account given of the three Fothads in Cóir Anmann,[8] in the Book of Leinster p. 190*b*, and in Rawlinson B. 502, p. 155*b*28.

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[1] In the following instances there is alliteration between the word in caesura and the first accented word in the second half-line: *f*echt: for *F*éicc 4; amn-*e*: *a*ssa 6; *f*ochaid: ní cen *f*olad 7; *a*rmach: ba hé 12; *a*ithli: *a*ithforgaib 16: *ó*ir: is ciede 27, &c.

[2] The first couplet of the eighth stanza is corrupt, as the absence of rhyme shows; the first verse of st. 15 is defective, and perhaps the three couplets of st. 22 have been run together through the omission of a couplet.

[3] See Thurneysen, *Ir. Texte* III, p. 150 and my Metrical Primer, § 2.

[4] See Thurn., l.c. [5] See Thurn., l.c., p. 82, and Metr. Pr., § 46.

[6] See Thurn., l.c., p. 42, Metr. Pr. § 39.

[7] The prose account says by the severed head.

[8] See Stokes' edition and translation in *Irische Texte*, vol. iii, p. 376.

[REICNE FOTHAID CANAINNE]

H. 3. 17, col. 856.

Būi rígféinnid[1] for Condachtaib fecht n-aill .i. Fothad Ca*ain*de. Brāthair side 7 Fothad Airgtheach 7 Fothad Cairpteach. Is de asbertha na Fothaig friu .i. fotha-suith iat, ar isí cétchlann ruc Fuinche iat[2] do Macnia. Nó Fothad .i. fó-táide .i. fo clith dorōnad la Mac Niath iat fri Fuinche ingin Náir m*aic* Armara. Nó Fothad .i. fī-āeda .i. olc-teine .i. teine neimneach iat ic orcain cl*ann* 7 cinēl. Aendia *immurro* 7 Trēndia 7 Cāendia a n-anmanna. Aendia in t-Airgteach, Trēndia in Cairptech, Cāendia Fothad Canann.

D'ōentoirp*irt* ructha iat a triur la Fuinche ingin Náir. Arsisbis do Lug*aid* mac Con, ut ali dicunt. Breatha Fuinche Aendia i tús aidchi; is de isberar ainm dō, ar ba gein rīg ar febus in thseōin. Trēndia a medōn aidche. Is de dobreath ainm dō ar treissi in thseóin lasna dēib[3] and. Cāendia issin maidin; ar cāime 7 ar āille na fungaire na maidne 7[4] is aire is Cāendia a ainm. Is dōib-sin rochan in senchaid[5]:

Trī Fothaig Elcca cen on, trī maic Luig*dech* maic Garrchon[6]:
resiu rob Foth*aid* na fir caide a n-anmann re taidbsin[7]?
Āendia *ocus* Cāendia cing *ocus* Trēndia, nī ceilim,[8]
it é sin, forcanat blad, anmand co fír na Fothad.[9]
Óendia in t-Airgthech na clann is Cāendia in Fothad Canand,
is Trēndia in Cairpthech atchī[d] imda airgtheach 'con Ardrīg.
Tri F.

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[1] rifindig MS. [2] This *iat* is superfluous. [3] deilb MS.
[4] To be omitted. [5] There is a defective copy of these verses in LL. p. 146*a*19.
[6] Garbchon LL. [7] anmand in trir sin LL. [8] Read *cheilim* as in LL.
[9] it eat sin *for* ce*ch* cechanamad na tri Fothad (sic) LL.

REICNE FOTHAID CANAINNE

There once was a leader of *fiana* over the men of Connacht, even Fothad Canainne. He and Fothad Airctech and Fothad Cairptech were brothers. This is why they were called the Fothads, because they were *fotha suith*, 'a foundation of offspring'; for they were the first children whom Fuinche bore to Macnia. Or, Fothad, viz., *fo-táide*, i.e. by stealth were they begotten by Macnia upon Fuinche the daughter of Nár son of Armair.[1] Or, Fothad, viz. *fí-áeda*, i.e. venom of fire, for they were a virulent fire in destroying clans and races. Oendia ('one[2] god'), however, and Tréndia ('strong god') and Cáindia ('fair god') were their names. Oendia was Airctech, Tréndia was Cairptech, Cáindia was Fothad Canann.

At one birth they were all three brought forth by Fuinche, daughter of Nár. She lay in by Lugaid mac Con, ut alii dicunt. Fuinche brought forth Oendia at nightfall. He is so called, because he was a king's son, for the excellence of the lucky hour. Tréndia was born at midnight. The name was given to him for the strength of luck with the gods at that hour.[3] Cáindia (was born) in the morning. Because of the loveliness and the beauty of the dawn of morning, therefore Cáindia is his name. Of them the shanachie has sung:—

"The three Fothads of Ireland without a blemish, three sons of Lugaid, Garrchu's son: before the men were (called) Fothad, what were their names to show (them) forth?

"Oendia and Cáindia the champion, and Tréndia, I hide it not: those are—they teach renown—the names truly of the Fothads.

"Oendia was Airctech of the clans, and Cáindia was Fothad Canann, Tréndia was Cairptech, you see, . . . with the High-king."

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[1] In *Cóir Anmann*, § 220, she is called daughter of Bénne Britt, King of the Britons. According to Gilla in Chomded's poem (LL. p. 144*b*22) the three Fothaid were the sons of Fedlimid mac Móir meic Mat meic Gnathail (leg. Gnáthaltaig) meic Mair meic Cairpri Niad.

[2] Or, perhaps, 'particular god,' 'special god.' See L. C. Stern, CZ. 1, p. 315.

[3] *and*, 'in it,' i.e. at midnight. Stokes, *Cóir Anm.*, p. 278, renders 'there.'

(col. 857) Mad iar n-araile, is de isberar Fothad dīb .i. fō-suith .i. fō maith .i. fotha maithi .i. clann sainemail iat. Fothad Canand, is de isberar .i. ō Canaind, ōn choin robói aicce, unde[1] Canund i Maig Life dicitur. Nó Fothad Caenine .i. cáin .i. ālaind in dec intan nodrucad.

Fothad Airgtheach, is de isberar, issed indmus ba hannsom leis, ar ba head a buind[i] niad 7 a dī falaig 7 a muntorce.

Fothad Cairpthech, is de asberar, ar issed slabri conīrad: maire cona cairpthib 7 is fris adertai Fothad Dolus.

Ba hān 7 ba hairgteach intí Fothad Canainde. Ba mind teglaigh 7 slōigh. Bói fiann lōech[2] amra lais. Ba derscai[g]dech side ar erriud 7 grāin 7 ordon 7 dechelt 7 tairpige sech ógu na haimsire sin.

Bāi dono rī[g]fēinnid[3] amra la Mumain in tan sin .i. Oilill Flann Becc. Bói imarbād[4] eturru diblínib 7 dogēnsit er[e]ich n-eturra. Ba hamru delb Fothaid ol bái Oilill, acht ba hamru ben Oilella 7 ba hāille oldās ben Fothaid. Luid iarum Failbe ō Fothud do thochmarc a mnā do chind Oilella. Ispert sí ni targad leó condarbad[5] a tindscra dí. Conmidir a tindscra .i. miach óir 7 miach finddruine[6] 7 miach crēdumai. Rāidid[7] Failbe fri Fothad in n-aithesc sin. Ispert Fothad rod[a]biad indī[8] sin. Imchomarcair in ben ciped hé cruth forcuingabad sōn nodgēbad. Ispert som bādur sé semmanda a[9] sleig cech fir do muntir Fothaid .i. dā seim (col. 858) ōir 7 dā še[i]m airgid 7 dā še[i]m finddruine 7 nogédais tri semanda as cech sleig 7 fuicbidis tri semannda in cech sleig 7 dolínfaidis tri mēich dīb .i. miach óir 7 miach airgid 7 miach crédumai.

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[1] ut dicunt MS. [2] Instead of *fiann lōech* read perhaps *fianlach* [3] rifeindig MS. [4] Read *immarbág* [5] Read *condardad* [6] Read *airgit* [7] raidig MS. [8] Read *ani* [9] Read *i*

According to others they were called Fothad, as it were *fó-suith*, i.e. *fo* means 'good', viz., they were good foundations, i.e. a distinguished progeny. Fothad Canann is so called from Canann, a hound that he had; whence (also) Canann[1] in Mag Life is called. Or Fothad Cáinine, viz. cáin, i.e. delightful was the day when he was born.

Fothad Airctech ('the silvery') is so called because wealth was dearest to him; for that was his champion's bracelet and his two rings and his neck-torque.[2]

Fothad Cairptech ('of the chariots') is so called because this is the portion that he used to give (to his sons), steeds with their chariots. And he was (also) called Fothad Dolus.[3]

This Fothad Canainne was noble and ingenious. He was the diadem of a household and of a host. He had a war-band (*fían*) of famous warriors, who were distinguished for dress and terror and dignity and raiment and fierceness beyond the warriors of that time.

There was also at that time a famous leader of *fíana* in Munster, even Ailill Flann Bec. There was mutual strife between them on both sides; and they made raids upon each other. Fothad's shape was more marvellous than that of Ailill, but Ailill's wife was more marvellous and delightful than Fothad's wife. Then Failbe was sent by[4] Fothad to woo Ailill's wife in disregard of her husband. She said that she would not go with them until he should give her bride-price to her. She fixed her bride-price, even a bushel of gold and a bushel of silver and a bushel of white bronze. Failbe reports that answer to Fothad. Fothad said she should have that. The woman asked . . .[5] she would take it in whatever form it was offered (?). He said that each man of Fothad's household had six rivets in his spear, viz. two rivets (col. 858) of gold and two rivets of silver and two rivets of white bronze; and they would take three rivets out of every spear and leave three rivets in every spear, and (thus) three bushels would be filled with them, even a bushel of gold, and a bushel of silver, and a bushel of bronze.

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[1] Dinn Canann, 'the Fort of Canu,' in *Cóir Anm.*

[2] According to a story printed in *Imram Brain*, p. 52, his two bracelets of silver, his two arm-rings and his neck-torque of silver were placed upon the stone-chest in which he was buried, when he had been slain by Cáilte in the battle of Ollorbe.

[3] See the explanation of this epithet in *Cóir Anm.*, p. 378.

[4] Literally, 'went from.' [5] Something seems omitted in the Irish text.

Dolluid si iarum i ndāil Fothaid 7 berid ar aithidh[1] leis hí. Luid do*no* Oilill Flann Becc lín a fiann ana n-íarmōracht a mná, co comarnuic fri Fothad issinn aidchi cétna, *co* fersat imairecc a ndib fiannaib. Conrot[h]acht comthrascrad dōib. Docer Fothad ann 7 díc[h]enntar. Dobreth in ben dothāet i ndāil Fothaid a cheann chuicci issin firt i mbí. Cachain cenn Fothaid in reicne don mnāi annsin, conid ann isbert:

'A ben nāchamagille' 7 rl.

[1] aithigh MS.

So she came to a tryst with Fothad and he carried her off. However, Ailill Flann Bec went with all his warrior-bands (*fiana*) in pursuit of his wife, so that he encountered Fothad the same night. They fought a battle with their two warrior-bands.[1] They had sworn that they would overthrow each other. Fothad falls there and is beheaded. The woman who comes to a tryst with Fothad carried his head to him in the grave where it is. Then the head of Fothad sang the *reicne* to the woman, and said:—

'Hush, woman, do not speak to me,' &c.

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[1] The battle of Féic is also mentioned in Flann mac Maelmaedóc's (†977) poem on the exploits of Leinstermen in Rawlinson B. 502, p. 88*a*, as follows:—

Rofessa a scéla cen bréic tria chomram na fian for Féic;
rofig Fothaid, ní deolaid, ann for Ailill mac nEogain,

and in the story of Conall Corc, *Anecdota*, vol. III., p. 61, l. 29 (issind immairiuc hi Féic).

B. IV. 2. fo. 133*b*.

1 A ben, nāchamaicille! nī friot atá mo menmo:
atā mo meuma collēic isind imairiuc oc Féic.

2 Atā mo corpān crūäch i taobh Letrach dā mbrūäch,
atā mo cenn cen nighe eitir fiena for garbhs*lighe*.

3 Dochta do neoc[h] dá*les* dāil fācba*s*[1] dáil n-éco fri lāimh;
in dāl dālto co Clárach tuärnect im robánadh.

4 Rodelba*d* dūn, trūagh ar fecht, for Fēicc doroirnedh ar lecht,
imonrōiraid,[2] bāg ma liūin, totim la hóga aniūil.

5 Nī mē m'aonor im-mūr thol docōid fordal i ndá[i]l ban,
ní ar ait[h]biur cid ditt ágh, is duäigh ar ndedhendál.

6 Do cēin doroächt do dāil, bāi grāin for mo choicne má[i]r,
ma dofesmais[3] bid amne, bá assa nī tairistæ.

7 Bá ó Foth*ud* 'na huthair[4] ber*t*is co hūair dorochair,
cidh amne, nīth fri fochaidh, nī cen fol*ad* guin Foth*aid*.

8 Nīmrumart-sa mamasrad fien gormainech gobu*r*glas,
a techt i nhúire adba dirsan dond eōchaill amra!

9 Matis ēisium batis bī, rofestais[5] a tigernai,
mainbad tairbad bāis dīmair, lem nī bud fien cen dīgail.

10 Co a tigdāil bat*ar* lūait[h], atcosnatis bidbad būaidh,
foscantais raind, trom a ngāir, cinsit do chl*aind* ruirech rāin.

11 Be hē fiallach seng subaid[6] gusin aimsir hirrubaidh,[7]
arusfōet caill duleglass, ropo coigne uleamhnas.

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[1] facb- MS. [2] leg. immonróirad [3] leg. rofesmais [4] leg. othair
[5] leg. dofestais [6] leg. subach [7] leg. hirrubad

Translation.

1 Hush, woman, do not speak to me! My thoughts are not with thee. My thoughts are still in the encounter at Féic.[1]

2 My bloody corpse lies by the side of the Slope of two Brinks, my head all unwashed is among warrior-bands in fierce slaughter.

3 It is blindness[2] for anyone making a tryst to set aside the tryst with death: the tryst that was made at Clárach has been kept by me in pale death.[3]

4 It was destined for me,—unhappy was my journey!—at Féic my grave had been marked out; it was ordained for me—O sorrowful fight![4]—to fall by warriors of another land.

5 'Tis not I alone who in the fulness of desires have gone astray to meet a woman—no reproach to thee, though it was for thy sake—wretched is our last meeting!

6 I have come from afar to the tryst with thee; there was horror upon my noble companion.[5] If we had known it would be thus, it had been easy not to persist.

7. Men were wont to bear away (gifts) from Fothad (who is now) on his bed of death to the very hour in which he fell: even thus—a fight against fate!—the slaying of Fothad is not without benefit.[6]

8 The noble-faced grey-horsed warrior-band has not betrayed me . . . . Alas for the wonderful yew-forest that they should go into the abode of clay!

9 If they had been alive, they would have revenged their lords: had mighty death not intervened,[7] this warrior-band had not been unavenged by me.[8]

10 To their very end they were swift; they strove ever for victory over their foes. They would sing a stave—heavy their shout—it was from a noble lord they sprang.

11 That was a joyous lithe-limbed band to the very hour when they were slain: the green-leaved forest has received them, it was an all-fierce slaughter.

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[1] = *Linn Féic*, Feic's Pool in the Boyne near Slane. See Macgn. Finn, § 18. CRR. § 25. [2] Literally, 'closeness, secretiveness.' [3] Literally, 'in my great (deadly) pallor.' [4] Literally, 'fight of my sorrow.' [5] i.e. upon Ailill's wife. [6] Literally, 'substance.' [7] Literally, 'had there not been the hindrance of mighty death.' [8] Literally, 'it would not be a *fían* without revenge.'

12 (fo. 134*a*) Domhn*all* dercedige armach, ba hē Lug na fian fadbach ;
[i]sind áth, ba dūire daol, is leis docer Congal Cáel.[1]

13 Na tri Eog*ain*, na tri Flainn, batir allata ēclainn,
dorochair *cethrur*[2] cech æ, nīrbo cuibrenn drochlaige.

14 Trait donroïg Cū Domua oc asenamh a comanmo,
faigēbt[h]air[3] colaind Flaind Bic i tel*aig* inn imairic.

15 Tāthud daith comhul, is dīograis do *Choncobur*,
dīograis totim nEogoin R*ūaid* frisin abaind anairthūaidh.

16 Tāthud *ochtar*[4] la suidiu[5] airm hi fail a crōlighe,
ciarbo airmeirb lend aithli aithforgaib m*aic* Mug*airni*.

17 Nī meirb dofich Falbe Flann, frisloisc fiena a t[h]ētbann,
[l]eblaing F*ercorb*, gorm a c[h]lī, co rohuicc *secht* cētguini.

18 Comrac Mugairnd fri Mugna, bat*ar* dā c[h]uilēn cholma,
manistīsedh fien forbar, ropad inī*r* a congal.

19 Foce[i]rd a[6] n-oman ca*ch* tūaith cain dot*h*fasuith Falbe Rūaidh,
immusapt[h]atar, gann glē, re cách ar ndā deogbaire.

20 Sæth mār fri luga dige, bitscar*adh* fri tromthuile,
domuiniur domruïs fēin céini rogalta in fēin.

21 Dā laoch de[a]cc tul fri tul bātar frim i n-imarguin,
ní fil cidh ōenfer de sin nātt fārcbainn i tinorguin.

22 Iarsin imcuirsim[7] dá sl*eig* meisi is Oilill mac Eogoin,
ceetar nāt*har* dībh atbath, amhainsi dā thenn f*or*gabh,
imapt[h]a dūn, ciarbo bōet[h], ba hē comrac dā ndeglāech.

23 Nā tuinithe[8] aide[h]e ūath illcirce *cter* lectaibh[9] cūan,
nī fiu cobraim fri fer marb, fodruim[10] dot daim, ber lat m'fadb.

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[1] claon *nó* cæl MS. [2] .4. MS. [3] leg. fogébthar [4] .8. [5] leg. suide
[6] leg. i [7] leg. imcuirsem [8] leg. tuinite [9] leg. lechta [10] leg. fotruim

12 Well-armed Domnall, he of the red draught, he was the Lug[1] of the well-accoutred hosts: by him in the ford—it was doom of death[2]—Congal the Slender fell.

13 The three Eogans, the three Flanns, they were renowned outlaws; four men fell by each of them, it was not a coward's portion.

14 Swiftly Cú Domna reached us, making for his name-sake: on the hill of the encounter the body of Flann the Little will be found.

15 Thou wilt find[3] . . . —a ready union—it is hard for Conchobar! a hard fall that was of Eogan the Red's to the north-east of the river.[4]

16 With him where his bloody bed is thou wilt find eight men: though we thought them feeble, the leavings of the weapon of Mugairne's son.[5]

17 Not feebly fights Falbe Flann, the play of his spear-strings withers the host; Fercorb of radiant body leapt (upon the field) and dealt seven murderous blows.

18 The combat of Mugarn with Mugna,—two brave whelps were they; if the puissant *fían* had not come to them, their contest had been dour.

19 It casts every tribe into dread, ... of Falbe the Red: before all the rest our two cup-bearers perished by each other's hand.

20 O great distress from lack of drink, the parting for ever from copious plenty! I thought thou wouldst have come to me,[6] though thou hadst not promised the *fían*.

21 Front to front twelve warriors stood against me in mutual fight: not one of them all remains that I did not leave in slaughter.

22 Thereupon we exchanged spears, I and Ailill, Eogan's son: we both of us perished thereof—Oh, the fierceness of these two stout thrusts! we perished mutually, though it was senseless; it was the encounter of two heroes.

23 Do not wait for the terror of night on the battle-field among the resting-places of the hosts; one should not hold converse with a dead man, betake thee to thy house, carry my spoils with thee!

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[1] i.e. Lug mac Ethlenn. [2] Literally, 'hardness of *dóils*,' i.e. the black chafer, an emblem of death. [3] Literally, 'est tibi.' [4] viz. the Boyne.
[5] A *mac húi Mugairne* (*Moguirni*) is mentioned in Rawl. B. 502, 125*b*2 & 4.
[6] Literally, 'I think thou wouldst come to me.'

24 (fo. 134*b*) Atotfugēra cech dóin nī bu hētach nach dīc[h]ōimh,
fūan corcra *ocus* lēine geal, criss arcait, nī haicde mer.

25 Mo sleg cōicrind, gæ co fī, diemta[r] mence cētguini,
cōicriuth co mbūalc umæ darsnatoingdis *der*bhlugæ.

26 Astōidfa frit, sét collī, finnc[h]uäch mo deogbairi,
m'ōrnasc, m'fo*laig*, seōid cen táir,[1] dusm*bert* dar muir Niä
Nāir.[2]

27 Éubá Cāilti, delg co mbail, ba dia aicdibh adamhraib,
dā c[h]onn arccait im c[h]oun óir, is aicde maith ciasa fóil.

28 Crib fódaroinn, fola fuin, for*fle*[i]sc crēduma fam muin:
atā uile, is fodb sōer, in t-airm i torc[h]air mo t[h]aobh.

29 Is dūal deit-si, sét nāch lag, m' fit[h]chell, adarella lat,[3]
bruinnit[4] fuil sócr for a bil, nī cıen di sonn indasfail.

30 Is mór colla cūan rinnech sán c[h]án immo deircinnech,
dosneim dos dlūit[h] dairpri rūaidh i taob inn f*irt* iniertūaith.

31 Oco cuinc[h]id duit dollēir ní rob mór nolabrat*har*,
nī tharla celtair talman dar dūil badit n-amhrathor.

32 Leath a foirne ór buidhe, alaile is fiondruinc,
a hindech do margarét, brecht la certa cía rét.

33 *Cetheoir*[5] coinnle, soillsi bán, nī m*eir*v forosnat a clár,
beuil [in]na tein, scél nād gó, ní randath na roidhmethau.

34 A ferbolc, is amra sceúil, de ór imdernta a beúil,
glas forfācoibh fair in súi nāchunursloicce nac[h] dúi.

35 Criöl c[h]et*harc*[h]uir, is fóil, roces de dūal*aib* dergóir,
dron forfuirmedh i suide *cét* uingc do fionndruine.

36 Ar is de dūal dergōir druin, dobert Dīonoll c*erd* dar muir,
(fo. 135*a*) cid óen a siball namá, mesa fri secht láic[h]esa.

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[1] leg. tár [2] leg. Nár [3] lata MS. [4] leg. bruinnid [5] .4. MS.

24 Everyone will tell thee that it was not the raiment of a churl: a crimson cloak and a white tunic, a belt of silver, no paltry work.

25 My five-pronged spear, a lance with venom, whose slaughters were many; a shield with five circles, with a boss of bronze, by which they used to swear binding oaths.

26 The white cup of my cup-bearer, a shining gem, will glitter before thee; my golden finger-ring, my bracelets, treasures without a flaw, Nia Nár[1] brought them across the sea.

27 Cáilte's brooch, a pin with luck, it was one of his marvellous treasures: two heads of silver round a head of gold, it is a good piece, though it is small.

28 Quickly unclasp it—there was the end of blood-shedding!—the bronze coil around my neck: all this—they are noble spoils—is in the place where I fell on my side.[2]

29 My draught-board, no mean treasure, is thine; take it with thee! Noble blood drips upon its rim, it is not far hence where it lies.

30 Many a body of the spear-armed hosts lies here and there around its crimson woof: the dense bush of the ruddy oak-wood conceals it by the side of the grave north-west.

31 As thou carefully searchest for it, thou shouldst not speak much: earth never covered anything so marvellous as it.

32 One half of its figures are yellow gold, the others are white bronze; its woof is of pearl; it is the wonder of smiths how it was wrought.

33 Four candle-sticks, a white light, not feebly do they illumine its board; grease in their fire, no false story, . . .[3]

34 The bag for its figures—'tis a marvel of a story—its rim is embroidered with gold; the master-smith has left a lock upon it which no ignorant person can open.

35 A four-cornered casket—it is tiny—it has been made of coils of red gold; one hundred ounces of white bronze have been put into it firmly.

36 For it is of a coil of firm red gold, Dínoll the gold-smith brought it over the sea; even one of its clasps only has been priced at seven lay-women.

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[1] i.e. Crimthann Nia Nár, from whom Dún Crimthainn on Howth is called. As to his expedition abroad and the spoils brought back from it, see the Four Masters, A.D. 9. [2] Literally, 'where my side has dropped.' [3] The last verse is quite obscure to me.

37 Imostúarusebat *c*umni is di *pr*īmhaicdib T*ur*bc,
i n-aimsi*r* Airt, bá rí tét, is ann dogníth T*ur*bi *tr*ét.

38 Rofecht impe mór ngret[h]a la rí[g] Rōmhān ilLetha,
iar n-ōl fíona, ba mesc linn, is ann foillsighti do Find.

39 Nīcon deirgensat cerda aicde frisa samhlat[h]ar,
glē lim nī fo*r*laig híriu oc rīg sēt bat[1] n-amradar.

40 Dia mba trepar imma lōg, glē lim do c[h]lann nī ba trōgh,
ma du*s*coisis, aicde druit, nī bo cres n*ach* cinēl duit.

41 Atā[a]t immunn san c[h]an, m*ór* fodb asa fo*r*derec bol,
dreman inathor dīmar, nodusnigh an Mórríoghan.

42 Donārlaith do bil ōigc, isī cotanasōide,
is mōr do fodboibh nigius, dremhan an caisgen tibhes.

43 Rolā a moing dar a hais, cride maith recht nodaais,
cid gar di sund úan i mbé, nā fub*thad* uaman do gnē.

44 Mad cose dam fri gāb*ud*, nīmgaibt[h]i frim idsnádh*ud*,
a banscál, nog*a*btha for, cāin blāth fa roscarsam*ur*.

45 Scarfat[2] fri daonacht don mud 'sin madain īer macc*ā*nrud,
airc dot daim, sonn nī ainfe, dofil deöidh na haidchi.

46 Im*u*sráidhfi neach nach ré reicne[3] Fotha[i]d Canainne,
mo c[h]obrad frit nī hinglæ má imrāite mo thimna.

47 In dul bidh coimtig mo lecht rosáit*er* mai, menn in f*ert*,
ní hescor sáitha atchī dot [f]ochuidh īer t'inmuini.

48 Scar*fid* frit cēin mo c*hor*p toll, m'anum do pīenadh la donn,
serc bethu cé is miri, ingi adradh Rīgh nimhi.

49 Is ē in lon toimhen tibi*us* imc[h]om*arc* cáich bes hires,
sīabr*a* mo c[h]obr*a*, mo gnē, a ben, náchamaicillé!
A bhen.

[1] leg. bad [2] leg. scarfa [3] leg. reicni

37 Memories describe it as one of Turbe's master-works[1]: in the time of Art,—he was a luxurious king,—'tis then Turbe, lord of many herds, made it.

38 Many a skirmish has been fought about it by the king of the Romans in Latium; after a banquet of wine,—'twas an intoxicating drink,—'tis then it was revealed to Find.

39 Smiths never made any work to which it can be compared; earth never has hidden with a king a jewel that is so marvellous.

40 If thou be cunning as to its price, 'tis plain to me thy children will not be miserable; if thou hoard it, a close treasure, no race of thine will be in want.[2]

41 There are around us here and there many spoils whose luck is famous; horrible are the huge entrails which the Mórrígan[3] washes.

42 She has come to us from the edge of a pillar (?), 'tis she who has egged us on; many are the spoils she washes, horrible the hateful laugh she laughs.

43 She has flung her mane over her back, a stout heart . . .[4] that hates her; though it is near us here where she is, let not fear attack thy shape.

44 If hitherto I have been in peril, . . . for my salvation; O woman, . . . fair was the aspect under which we parted.

45 I shall now part from all that is human, in the morning after the band of youths. Go to thy house, do not stay here, the end of the night is at hand.

46 Some one will at all times remember the *reicne* of Fothad Canainne; my discourse with thee shall not be unrenowned, if thou consider my bequest.

47 Since my grave will be frequented, let a . . .[5] be placed, a conspicuous tomb; no loss of labour thou seest from thy trouble after thy love.

48 My riddled body must part from thee awhile, my soul to be tortured by the black demon. Save (for) the worship of Heaven's King, love of this world is folly.

49 It is the dusky ousel that laughs a greeting to all the faithful: my speech, my shape are spectral—hush, woman, do not speak to me!

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[1] Turbe Tragmar, a celebrated goldsmith, father of Gobbán Sáer, from whom Turvey (Tráig Turbi) on the northern coast of Co. Dublin is called. See Dindsenchas § 125 and Silva Gadelica II, p. 473. [2] Literally, 'narrow.' [3] i.e. the battle-goddess. [4] I can make nothing of *recht*. [5] *mai* or *m'ai* perhaps miswritten for *m'ainm* 'my epitaph.'

NOTES

1. *aicille* for *aicilde* (**ád-glādi*), 2. sg. imper. of *ad-gládur*. Cf. Thurn. Handb. p. 352—*menmo*, read *menmae*. Michael O'Clery often writes *o* for *a* in final syllables. Cf. *éco* 3, *dálto* ib., *comanmo* 14, *immo* 33, *oco* 31.

2. In the second couplet we have an example of elision between the end of one verse and the beginning of the next. See my Primer of Irish Metrics, § 24.

3. I have doubtfully extended *fácbas*. The O.-Ir. relative form would be *fácaib*. One would however rather expect a construction with the verb noun: *fácbáil dála éca fri láim*. For the phrase *f. fri láim* 'I leave aside' cf. *fácbaim Conchobor fri láim*, FB. 94. The expression *dál éca* answers to W. *dadyl angheu*, Skene, Four Ancient Books II, p. 64, ll. 16 and 26.—*tuarnecht* I take as the perf. pass. of *do-air-icim* 'accedo.' Cf. *nicon airnecht* 'it had not been found,' Thes. II, 348, 1. *ní harnecht*, ib. l. 31.

4. *immonroiraid* is miswritten for *immonróirad*, as *hirrubaid* st. 11 for *irrubad*. It is the perf. pass. of *im-feraim* with inf. pron. pl. 1.—*totim*, here and in st. 15, stands for O. Ir. *tothim*.

6. For *do cein* read *di chéin*.—In *dofesmais*, *do* has been substituted for *ro*, as in *rofestais* st. 9 *ro* has taken the place of *do*.—As to the use of *ba* in *ba assa* see Thurneysen, Handbuch § 794.

8. *nimrumart-sa*, 3 sg. perf. ind. of *mairnim* 'I betray,' with inf. pron. sg. 1.—*mamasrad* seems corrupt, as there is no rhyme. Thurneysen suggests reading *ma 'masrād* 'if I consider them,' and altering *goburglas* into *goburbān*.

10. *co a*, disyllabic as in Anecdota I, p. 52, 1[1].—*foscantais*, 3. pl. imperf. ind. from *fo-canim*, with proleptic inf. pron. 3. sg. fem. referring to *rainn*.—Read *di chlaind*.

11. For *be* read *ba*.—*irrubad* (sic leg.), sg. perf. pass. of *benim*.—*arusfóet*, pret. ind. from *ar-fo-emim*, with inf. pron. pl. 3.

12. Nothing is known to me of the warriors enumerated in this and the following stanzas. Their names do not seem to occur elsewhere.

13. Read *in tri Eogain*, *in tri Flaind*.

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[1] Read *Ranuc de sin muimme mórmass co a máthair*.

14. *donroig*, sg. 3. pres. ind. of *do-ro-saigim* with inf. pron. pl. 1. See Thurn. Handb. § 841 A.—*fogébthar* (sic leg.) sg. fut. ind. pass. of *fo-gaibim*.—Read *ind immairic*.

15. Read *táthut*. Something is omitted before the cheville *daith comul*.

16. For *lend* read *lenn*.

17. *leblaing*, if rightly emended from *eblaing*, is the 3. sg. of the pret. ind. of *lingim* (Thurn. Handb. § 227).—*rohuicc*, 3. sg. pret. ind. of *berim*.—*cét-* in *cétguin* has an intensive meaning, cf. the similar use of *óen-*.

18. *manistised*, 3. sg. past subj. of *do-icc*, with inf. pron. pl. 3.

19. Here Thurneysen suggests that Anoman may be the name of one of the cup-bearers. I can make nothing of *cain dothfasuith* which should contain a noun on which the gen. *Falbi Rúaid* depends.—*immusapthatar*, 3. pl. of *atbath*, the narrative form of the pret. to *at-baill*, with *imm-* and inf. pron. pl. 3. to express reciprocity.

20. *luga dige*, cf. *nisragaib luga dige*, FM. 776.—*bitscarad* = *bith-scarad*, with loss of lenition before *s*; see Thurn. Handb. § 136.—*domruïs*, 2. sg. pres. subj. of *do-ro-saigim*, with inf. pron. sg. 1.—For *céini* read perhaps *ceni* 'though not,' which is translated. *rogalta*, 2. sg. past subj. of *gellaim*.

21. *fárcbainn*, 1. sg. past subj. of *foácbaim*.

22. Read *imcuirsem áí sleig*.—*dibh* = *'diu* (*didiu*)?—*imaptha dún*; in this construction, for which see Strachan, Stories from the Táin, p. 92 s.v. *immasínithar dóib*, we generally find the singular verb. As to the passive plural formation *aptha* see Strachan, RC. 28, p. 205.

23. *tuinite* (sic leg.), 2. sg. depon. imper. from **do-neuth* 'I await,' verb. noun *tuinide*. See Cáin Adamnáin, p. 46. Cf. *indnite* from *in-neuth*, Thurn. Handb. § 585.—*fotruim* (sic leg.), 2. sg. imper. of *fo-rumim*, with inf. pron. sg. 2.

24. *atotfugéra*, 3. sg. fut. ind. act. of *ad-fo-garim*, with inf. pron. sg. 2. Cf. *adfógarar fer dun ráith andes* 'a man is announced coming to the fort from the south,' Imr. Br. p. 47, 15.

25. Read *darsatoingtis*.

26. *astóidfa*, see my Contributions s.v. and Thurn. Handb. § 816 B.

27. Read *ciasu fóil*.

28. *fodaroinn*, 2. sg. imper. from **fo-rannaim*, with proleptic inf. pron. sg. 3. fem. referring to *orfleisc*? Bergin however would compare *forondar* gl. fuscatur, Ml. 35*d*8, taking *fuin* as the subject—*in t-airm*, unusual instead of *airm*. Cf. Thurn. Handb. § 868.

29. For *nách* read *nád* as in *scél nád gó* § 33.—*atarella* (sic leg.), 2. sg. pres.

subj. of *ad-ellaim* with inf. pron. sg. 3. fem. referring to *fidchell*. For other examples of the use of *la* with this verb see my Contributions s.v. *ad-ellim*, and add: *atdubelliub lemm*, Wb. 7*a*4.—In *bruinnit* we have *t* for *d* as in *badit* 31, *bat* 39.—*indasfail*, a later O. Ir. use of *fil* with *i n-* and infixed pron. as in *inanfail*, LL. 61*b*45: cf. *condatfail*, SR. 1739; *dadotfail*, ib. 747; *atarfail*, ib. 3761; *conisfail*, Thes. II. 344, 38. For *-das-* see Strachan, Ériu I, p. 158.

30. *dosneim*. 3. sg. pres. ind. of *do-emim*, with inf. pron. pl. 3.—Read *ind fir̃t aniarthúaid*.

31. *dolléir* = *di léir* gl. diligenter, Ml. 68*a*15; *du léir*, LU. 126*a*24; *do léir*, SR. 4841, LL. p. 286*a*25. The *ll* is probably due to a momentary confusion with *colléir* (e.g. LL. 251*b*5).—Read *nolabraither* and *amraither*.—*badid n-amrathar*; cf. FM. 845: *ní dechaid ir-rédrigi marbán badid n-ingrethar* (sic leg.).

32. Read *brecht la cerdda ci o rét*, and cf. *ci o fut* gl. usque quo? Ml. 20*a*17. *ci o brig* gl. qua ui, CZ. VII.

33. The form *tein* is common in early poetry. See Thes. II, 302, 5; 318, 3; 346, 1; LL. p. 287*b*51.

34. Read *forácab* or *forácaib*, and *nách-an-air-soilci*.

35. For the meaning of *roces*, see my Contributions s. v. 4. cess.

36. *óen a siball*. For *óen* with the gen. cf. *óin inna mmind*, Trip. 82, 23.—*messa*, pret. pass. sg. of *midiur*.

37. *immostúarascbat*, 3. pl. pres. ind. of *im-túarascbaim*, with inf. pron. sg. 3. fem.—*rí tét*; cf. *in tétrí tadcach*, FM. 799.

39. *fo-r-laig*, 3. sg. perf. ind. of *fo-luigim*. Cf. *ní forlaig tálman togu* (sic leg.) *fer fo Mdel mínglan Muru*, FM. 885.

40. *duscoisis*, 2. sg. pres. subj. of *do-od-sechim* 'I nurse, hoard,' verbal noun *taiscith* CZ. IV, p. 38, 15, *toschid*, *tasgid* with inf. pron. sg. 3. fem. Cf. *is airi dosroisecht-sa colléir im bossán*, CZ. IV, p. 44, 3.

41. *nodusnig*, 3. sg. pres. ind. of *nigim* with inf. pron. pl. 3. rel.

42. *donárlaith*, sg. 3. perf. ind. of *do-ad-lod*, with inf. pron. pl. 1. Cf. *ainm ind fir dodatárlid* (sic leg.), Imr. Br. I, p. 43, 24. *conidnarlaid síd* 'so that peace has come to him,' Thes. II, p. 332, 1.—Read *is sí cotanassáide*, 3. sg. pres. ind. of *con-sáidim* with inf. pron. rel. pl. 1. Cf. *anád ruband cotsúidi*, TBC. 2071 (ed. J. S. and O'K.).

43. *no-da-ais*, 3. sg. pres. ind. of **aisim* 'I hate.' Cf. *náchit-ais*, *náchit-chara*, TBC. (ed. J. S. and O'K.) 1325. *in tan . . . adnais cech n-olc* 'when he hates every wrong,' CZ. III, p. 448, 4.—*fubthad*, if correctly expanded, 3. sg. ipv. of *fo-bothaim*.

44. Here *for* may stand for *foir*, *fair* as in LL. 49*b*19: *ní mair nach rí robói for*. In Imr. Snédg. 7 (ed. Thurneysen) *cid fó*, *cid for*, it seems used adverbially. *roscarsamar*, later Old Ir. for *roscarsam*.

45. Read *scarfa* for *scarfat* which is a Middle-Ir. form.—*dëöid* seems Mid. Ir. for O. Ir. *dead*. The word which was originally neuter became feminine. Cf. the dat. *deud* in Fél. Oing. Prol. 202, where MS. L reads *diaid*.

46. *immusráidfea* (sic leg.), 3. sg. fut. ind. of *im-ráidim* with inf. pron. sg. 3. fem. referring to *recni*.—As to the spelling *inglæ*, cf. *glae*, Thes. II, p. 292, 17. For *imráite* read *imráide*.

47. *in dul* 'seeing that, since.' See Hib. Min. Index s. v., and add: *indul is gnáthu dogrés oldás cech athgabáil*, Laws I, p. 250, 15. *in duil is Crist cech óigi*, Ériu II, p. 172. *dul* alone is so used in Wb. 30*b*5.

48. Read *betho*, *mive*, *inge*, *nime*.

49. Read *tibes*.

II. The Quarrel between Finn and Oisin.

The story of the combat between father and son has touched almost every nation which has produced an epic, or ballads of an epic character, or, as in the case of the Irish, epic tales. That particular version of the story, which in Old-Irish literature is embodied in the tale of the fight between Cúchulinn and his son Conla,[1] is ultimately derived, both in its main features and in all important details, from the Persian story of Rustem and Sohrab. This occurs as an episode in the *Shah Nameh* of Firdausi, a poet of the tenth century, who worked up older legends. Long before his time, however, it had found its way from Persia westward. It must have reached the Goths in their migrations, from whom it passed into the literature of several other Germanic tribes. For the Old-High-German poem of the combat between Hildebrand and Hadubrand has a Low-German origin; we meet the same motive in the Norse Thidrek-saga, and find traces of it in Anglo-Saxon literature. It seems most likely that it was the Anglo-Saxons who handed it on to the Irish some time during the seventh or early eighth century.

In Old-Irish literature the legend was naturally incorporated in the chief cycle of story-telling at that time, attaching itself to the hero whose adventures most resembled those of Hildebrand. Like Rustem and Hildebrand, Cúchulinn had spent his youth in foreign lands. There he begot the son who was to fall by his hand.

The discovery of another Irish setting belonging to the Ossianic cycle will cause little surprise to those who know that this later cycle modelled many of its stories upon those of the older heroic cycle. It is true, the legend of Finn and Oisin did not lend itself well to the introduction of the new motive. For in all the stories of the cycle Finn and his son are throughout on amicable terms and closely associated in their exploits and adventures. We shall see how the narrator gets out of the difficulty by inventing a quarrel between Finn and Oisin, during which the latter absents himself for a whole year. Again, the tragic issue was not adaptable to the Ossianic

[1] The oldest form of the name is *Conle*; in later and modern texts it has been made into *Conlaoch*.

saga. So a humorous and burlesque treatment is substituted, such as we find occasionally in the literature of other nations who have introduced the motive. Here the combat is merely a bit of rough horse-play or wrangle of words. This is the case, e.g., in a thirteenth century French epic called *Macaire*, in which a peasant returning home at the close of a war meets his two sons walking along with their backs bent under a heavy load of wood. He does not recognize them, they behave rudely to him, and a quarrel of words ensues, in the course of which recognition is brought about.[1] This is the form chosen by the Irish story-teller.

The poem has come down to us, so far as I know, in three manuscripts only: **H** i.e. Harleian 5280, fo. 35*b*1; **N** i.e. 23 N 10, p. 53; and **M** i.e. Ewen M'Lachlan's transcript which he called Leabhar Caol, preserved in the Advocates' Library Collection of Gaelic MSS., vol. lxxxiii, p. 251. The vellum manuscript itself from which M'Lachlan made his transcript has for some time been missing from the Library. It was called Leabhar Cille Brighde, and bore the number xxxii. An account of its chief contents will be found in the Report of the Committee of the Highland Society of Scotland, Edinburgh, 1805.[2] As appears from a colophon at the end of our piece, the scribe who wrote it was called Fithel mac Flaithrig mic Aedha.[3] I am indebted to the kindness of Professor Donald Mackinnon for a most careful copy of M'Lachlan's transcript.

Though none of these three MSS. is earlier than the sixteenth century, the language both of the prose and poetry contained in the piece is pure Old Irish. Indeed, we have here another instance of an Ossianic text which may be confidently assigned to the ninth century. Short as both prose and poetry are—the latter only sixteen stanzas—there are enough old forms, particularly in the verb, that make it impossible to assign a later date. In syntax the position of the attribute before the noun on which it depends may be noted, as in *foibur frossae, aiss lomma.* Unfortunately, the verses are badly handed down in all the MSS., being defective and corrupt in several places. My translation can therefore only be tentative and imperfect.

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[1] See M. A. Potter's *Sohrab and Rustem* (Grimm Library, vol. XIV), p. 82; and Alfred Nutt's *Problems of Heroic Saga* (International Folklore Congress, 1891), p. 128.

[2] Reprinted in the Transactions of the Ossianic Society, vol. v, p. 130.

[3] Misi Fith*el* m*ac* Flaithrig m*ic* Aodho. Finit.

Bói Find úa Báiscne fo Erinn[1a] oc cuinchid a maic .i.[1b] Oiséne.[1c] Bói Oiséne bliadain nícon fessa[2] a imthechta.[3] Bói co n-ulcus menman fria athair.[4] Fangaib[5] Find iarum i ndíthrub már.[6] Bói Oiséne[7] oc fuiniu[8] mucce. Famboith[9] intít Find 7 tobert[10] tress ndó. Gabais[11] Oiséne[12] a arm[13] 7 a airimbert.[14] Nínaithgiuin[15] fochétóir. Is and[16] asbert[17] Find robad báeth dond óclæich comrac frisin fer líath.[18] Canait[19] oblirach[20] íarum.

Oisín dixit[21]:

Is derb lem-sæ, cia[22] domaimse[23] in fer líath,
nícon áithiu[24] uig[25] a gái, nícon ba[26] letha[27] a scíath.

Find: Cinip áithiu[28] uig[29] a gái [is] cinip letha[29a] a scíath,
fri úair n-imbertæ i[30] cath bid foracal[31] in fer líath.

Oisín: Is glé[32] cid[33] tressa[34] a rig *ocus* cid[33] letha[35] a bil,[36]
nícon cumaing[37] ar asnu[38] arumfosta i cridiu.[39]

Find: Nícon messe a[s] samail frisin ngamain ong,[40]
fer líath rogoin rogonar,[41] rodaim[42] do bath co mbí toll.

Oisín: Ó rogonar[43] co fa[44] thrí i ndorar for sithśligi,[45]
is olc a[46] síanán trocha[47] fri agaid[48] ind ócbotha.[49]

Find: Is éol dam-sa ind ócbud[50] berte[51] innurain nellaig,[52]
ó rumbïät[53] . . . . .[54] rethit fuili[55] for remmaig.[56]

Oisín: Ní bí[57] ed ón[58] dogníät[59] ó robïät[60] i fedmaim,[61]
. . . .[62] in t-óelig[63] elig,[64] benir senláech fri[65] talmain.

[1a] fo Erinn om. M [1b] ethon M [1c] Oisen H Oisendæ N [2] fess NM [3] ai himthus M [4] ather N fre athuir M [5] *sic* H faoncaib M fogaib N [6] maur NM [7] Oisen HN [8] *fune* M funeth N [9] faimboith HN famb boith M [10] touuert M donpert HN [11] gabes N [12] Osenae N [13] armb H auirmb M [14] 7 arimbertæ H 7 airmberta N 7 a airmbimbert M [15] ninaithguin H ninaithgeoin N nienadhe M [16] nadn H nann N [17] cachuin N [18] obbrech *add.* H [19] canuith M forcansat N H *omits this sentence* [20] oplirach M [21] Oisin dixit *om.* N [22] cid H cïe M [23] domambsou M [24] nicon baithe N niecon aithie M [25] *om.* HM [26] nicomba N nicon ua M nicomba H [27] leithe H lethe N *lethei* M [28] aithe NM [29] uaich M [29a] lethe M [30] a HM [31] foracer N foraē N [32] glëi HN [33] cith M [34] tressai H [35] letae N lethan HM [36] bile M bileo N [37] cumang HN cumuing M [38] airisnua M

Finn ua Báiscne was seeking his son Oisin throughout Ireland. Oisin had been a year without anyone knowing his whereabouts. He was angry with his father. Then Finn found him in a great wilderness. Oisin was cooking a pig. Finn turns upon him and deals him a blow. Oisin seized his weapons and his accoutrements. He did not at once recognize him. Then Finn said it was foolish for a young warrior to fight against a grey-headed man. Thereupon they sing a lampoon.

Oisin dixit:

'"Tis plain to me, though the grey-head attacks (?) me, the points of his spear are no sharper, his shield is no broader.'

Finn: 'Though the points of his spear be no sharper, though his shield be no broader, at the hour of wielding (them) in combat the grey-head will prevail.'

Oisin: '"Tis clear, though his wrist is stronger and though the rim of his shield is broader, he cannot . . .'

Finn: 'I am not like the . . . stirk; the grey-head knows how to deal wounds and to receive them,[1] . . . so that he is riddled.'

Oisin: 'When he has been wounded three times in battle where far-reaching strokes are dealt, his scream of doom sounds ill as he faces young warriors.'

Finn: 'I am well acquainted with young men who carry . . . ,[2] when they shall be . . . , streams of blood run upon . . .'

Oisin: 'That is not what they do when they are[3] in the heat of the fight[4]: the youth (sings?) a pæan, the old warrior is struck to the ground.'

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[39] arimfastu a crideo N arumfosda a cridiu H arumfafasdua a crithe M [40] ógg H [41] rogon rogonar N rauccon roconur M [42] rodam N rodaimh M [43] ragonar N rogounoar M rogonair H [44] fua N [45] andorir *for* sithigiu N sitligiu N indoirear four sie*n*sligiu M [46] e N [47] tráthai N *tra*tha M [48] hadich N ath- M [49] oucbathu N ocbatha HM [50] ocbith N ogbath M [51] beurtai H *ber*tæ N *ber*tai M [52] annurain nellaig H *in*urai*n* nell- N inurrain nella M [53] *sic* M *om.* N [54] ma (*or* ina?) cun*n*̄ *ocon* M nicon rethid fuili HM [55] rethet fuileo N rethid fuili H reithit fuiele M [56] forreimiuth M [57] bith M [58] edhan H edan NM [59] dogniaat N dogni a ag H doucnieag M [60] ortabiat H ordabiath M orobiaat N [61] e fedmuim N a feadmuimb M i fetmain H [62] tathad N tat̄ H taodhuit M [63] ind oclaich M int ocl- M ind oclig N [64] nelich N nelaic H ealuig M [65] fo N

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[1] Literally, 'can wound, can be wounded.' [2] *in n-urain n-ellaig* (?)
[3] Literally, 'have been.' [4] Literally, 'in exertion.'

Find: In fer . . . .[1] cona ṡleig do chomruc frisin n-óclig,[2]
is éol dam-sa a[3] mbiäs de: dluge srónae[4] óclaige.

Oisín: Ó foruban[5] crith cech cnáim ní goirt in gái assa láim,
óclig[6] for topur thuli,[7] ní bí[8] errach senduni.

Find: Ó rombíät[9] immalle i clochur in garbṡlige,[10]
fritecht fóibur[11] ní cara, aiss[12] lomma neich[13] nacana.

Oisín: Is di álchaib[14] ind Fir léith labrad a cobraud[15] a scéith,
rosagat[16] fóibur[17] frossae,[18] ní fétat[19] na senchossae.[20]

Find: Nícon ralus ó rígluch[20a] geilt[21] for fedaib i ndíthrub,[22]
isin dorir toilge tóib[23] gnáithi[24] óclaig[25] for[26] rind cróib.

Oisín: In geilt[27] for rith sunde[28] tíar nícon óclaig,[29] is fer líath,
in friuch file for suidiu is é bís[30] for senduniu.

Find: Noll[31] a *maic*, ní maith a[32] congairi-siu,
cia nommera ní[33] fuban, is am comman[34] tairisiu.[35]

Oisín: A ṡenláich, dígnais[36] etir ócbadu,[37]
ní bu accobar[38] do chrád manip ág[39] ar óclachu.[39a]

Find: Inna hule[40] immalle ní bu[41] messa doïb de,[42]
dia mbem[43] inar comardus[44] ó ascomartmar[45] ar nglé.[46]
Is derb.

Tánic a muinter co Find 7 co Oisín íarum.[47]

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[1] com*rus* HN comous M [2] ocleig N oclaich H ocl- M [3] e N im H [4] *sic* N srona HM [5] *for*ruban M [6] oclach HM ocleg N [7] tule N a tuile M [8] bud N [9] orambiat N orombiad H [10] garbaligeo N [11] *sic* N foibor H faobuir M [12] as M [13] *in* neich N *nech* M [14] de alchaib N di alachaib H [15] *sic* H e cobreth N a courath M [16] rossacat N rosachat M russachat H [17] i faobra M foepur H foe*bur* N [18] *sic* H frossa N frusa M [19] fedhad H fedat N fetuit M [20] sencoso N seuncussa H seancasa M [20a] on richlagh M [21] gelt N celt M [22] didrub H [23] dorer tolge toib N doirim toilgi toib H doirir dolce taoibh M [24] gnate N [25] oclig N ocloich H ocl- M [26] fri H *for in* croib N [27] gelt N geld M [28] sunne H sunno N [29] oclæg N oclach H ogl- M [30] mbis N uis M [31] nall N nolt M [32] an H [33] no*m*bmeara N

Finn: 'The man who . . . with his spear to encounter the young man,—I know what will come of it: the young man's nose will be split.'

Oisin: 'When palsy has consumed every bone, the spear from his hand is not bitter. The young man is in the heyday of his strength,[1] the old man's spring-time is past.'[2]

Finn: 'When they shall be together upon the stone-dyke of fierce slaughter, he does not love to meet sword-edges, sips of milk . . .'

Oisin: 'It is one of the habits of the grey-head to talk from under the cover of his shield; showers of sword-edges . . .[3] his old legs cannot stir.'

Finn: 'I have not . . . from a royal host a maniac upon trees in a wilderness; in the battle . . . young men are wont to be upon the point of a branch.'

Oisin: 'The maniac who is running here westward is not a young man, it is a grey-head; the . . . which is upon such a one, 'tis that which is upon the old man.'

Finn [making himself known]: 'Verily, my son, what you utter is not good; though you deceive me it does not hurt; 'tis time that we should be more trustful.'

Oisin: 'Oh ancient hero, you are not wont to be among youths; I had no desire to harm you if you had not been boastful against warriors.'

Finn: 'Taking all these things together, none is any the worse[4] for it, if we are on the same level, since we have settled our dispute.'[5]

Then their own people came to Finn and Oisin.

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nomera H *nomer*uo M [34] qmo*n* N cumun M [35] hairisiu N [36] didignais H dodignais N Aght na hogl- do gnais M [37] ocbodaib H ocbuthau N occbath- M [38] accubrass H acobrus N acoprus M [39] minubaig H manebaig N munabaigh M [39a] oclachaibh H [40] ina huili H dia rauamb uile malle M [41] bai H bad N [42] neussa H [43] damem H dambem N dambeamp M [44] comortus M [45] uascommortmar M hoascommartmar N [46] Should we read *glé* for *derb* in the first stanza? [47] tanuicc amuir (*sic*) co Fint 7 co hOisin iaramh M *Both* H *and* N *omit this sentence.*

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[1] Literally, 'the young man (is) on the well of flood.' [2] Literally, 'it is not the spring of the old man.' [3] leg. *rasegat* 'reach him' (?) [4] Literally, 'they are none the worse.' [5] Literally, 'since we have beaten out our settlement.'

III. Ailill Aulom, Mac Con, and Find ua Báiscne.

From Laud 610, fo. 94b²–96a¹.

Incipit do scēlaib Mosaulu[i]m 7 *Maic* Con 7 Luigdech.[a]

Ailill Mosaulum mac Moga Nūadat ba rí for lith hĒirenn 7 ba drúi. Sadb ingen Chuind berte maccu do Mosaulum. Gabais mac n-altrama ō Dārfīni .i. Mac Con mic Luigde[ch]. Issed-sein asberat araile i ngenelaigib[b] im*murgu* is Sadhb māthair mic Con 7 īar n-ēcaib Luigdech luid co hAilill, os sī torrach do Mac Con. Īarsain īarum bert si Eogan Mōr.

Comaimser do Luigit[h] 7 do Chonn Chētchathach mac Feidlimthi. Comaimser d*ano* do Ailill 7 do Art mac Cuind. Comaimser d*ano* do Mac Con 7 do Eogan.

Robói cotach hitir Luigdhe[c] 7 Ailill nAulum 7 et*ir* a clanna dia ndéis .i. antan nombīth rígi la clanna Auluim, brithemnus la clanna Luighdech; antan im*murgu* nobíth rīghi la clanda Luigdech, brithemnus la maccu Auluim. Lugaid 7 Ailill dorigni in sin hi fīadnaisi Chuinn Chētchathaig for leith hĒirenn. Nogabtais rīge 7 brithemnus .i. Lagin 7 Mumu. Cūic m*aic* Dāre Doimthig .i. na cūic Luigdig ut supra dixim*us* m*aic* Sithbailc m*aic* Fir hUaillne m*aic* Daigmanrach m*aic* Dego Deirgthine m*aic* Nūadat Aicnaig Luigthīni m*aic* Loga Feidlig m*aic* Ērimōin m*aic* Fidais m*aic* Gossa m*aic* Śír m*aic* Madai m*aic* Loga m*aic* Ethamon m*aic* Māil m*aic* Luigdech diatā Loch Luigdhech (Fīal a śētig, diatā Inber Fēile) m*aic* Ītha m*aic* Niūil m*aic* Mīleth m*aic* Bile m*aic* Breogaint [fo. 95a1] m*aic* Brátho lascumtacht tor mBreogaint (ō anmuim ind rís rohainmniged

[a] luidgech MS. [b] inginaig MS. [c] leg. Lugid

[1] Commonly called Ailill Aulomm ('Bare-ear').

[2] i.e. Conn of the hundred battles.

[3] Dairfine .i. Corco Láigde, *Corm. Tr.* 16; *O'Mule.* 417; *Cóir Anm.* § 68. Ernai 7 Dairfine do rád friu-side ó Dáre mac Dedaid 7 ní Corco Laigde ut alii putant, Rawl. B. 502, p. 147b.

III. Ailill Aulom, Mac Con, and Find ua Báiscne.

Translation.

Incipit of the stories of Mośaulum and Mac Con and Lugaid.

Ailill Mośaulum[1] son of Mug Nuadat was king over one half of Ireland and was a druid. Sadb daughter of Conn[2] bore sons to him. She received a foster-son from the Dárine,[3] viz. Mac Con son of Lugaid. Others, however, in the Genealogies say that Sadb was Mac Con's mother and that she went to Ailill after the death of Lugaid, when she was pregnant with Mac Con. Afterwards she bore Eogan the Great.

Lugaid and Conn of the hundred battles were contemporaries; and so were Ailill and Art son of Conn, and again, Mac Con and Eogan.

There was a covenant between Lugaid and Ailill Aulum and between their offspring after them that whenever Aulum's offspring held the kingship, Lugaid's offspring should hold the judgeship; but when Lugaid's offspring held the kingship, Aulum's sons were to hold the judgeship. Lugaid and Ailill made this [arrangement] in the presence of Conn of the hundred battles over one half of Ireland. Thus the men of Leinster and Munster held kingship and judgeship. Five sons of Dáre Doimthech (viz. the five Lugaid,[4] ut supra diximus) son of Sithbalc,[5] son of Fer Uaillne,[6] son of Daigmannair,[7] son of Daig Dergthine, son of Nuadu Aicnech Luigthíne, son of Lug Feidlech, son of Érimón, son of Fidas, son of Guss, son of Sír, son of Mada, son of Lug, son of Ethamon, son of Mál, son of Lugaid (from whom Loch Luigdech is called; Fial was his spouse, from whom is Inber Féile), son of Íth, son of Nél, son of Míl, son of Bile, son of Breogant, son of Bráth, by whom the tower of Breogant[8] was built—the tower and the

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[1] See Rawl. B. 502, pp. 143*a* and 155*a*, where the five [or three, or six] sons of Dáre Doimthech or D. Sirchréchtach are enumerated.

[5] Called *Sidebolc* in Rawl. B. 502, pp. 143*a* and 155*a*, and *Sidbalg* below.

[6] *Fer Suilne* or *Fer Fuilne* in Rawl.

[7] *Teomannair* in Rawl. [8] i.e. Brigantium in Spain.

in tor 7 in chathir, ar ba hēscom ba rí 7 ba sinnser la maccu Mīleth Espāne) *maic* Airgeda *maic* Aldōit *maic* Nōindin *maic* Nemnū̆aill *maic* Fāebair *maic* Aingi *maic* Scuit *maic* Glais *maic* Glúnfind *maic* Lāmfind *maic* Agnomin *maic* Taithe *maic* Buith *maic* Eō *maic* Aoth *maic* Aór *maic* Rachaiara *maic* Srau *maic* Esru *maic* Baath *maic* Iabath *maic* Gomer *maic* Iafeth *maic* Noé *maic* Lamiach *maic* Mathussalem *maic* Enóc *maic* Iareth *maic* Malalel *maic* Cainen *maic* Enois *maic* Séth *maic* 'Adaim *maic* Dé bí.

Asbert a drui fri Dáre: 'Do maicne cit mathi, nī gēba acht ōenfer diib dit ēs-seo .i. Lugaid Lágdhe, ar ba rī hi Temair in Dāre Doimthech. Is hē an cūiced Dári robōi hi Temuir de Mumain 7 ba tria gaisced roríge co forbeth a [f]laith fuiltiugh (.i. fuilriug) asnabbrad hi sennathib:

Dāre Doimthech dālis dig fola for cach srith,
co fārgaib a hurisna rígi cen chlith.

Dāre Doimthech ba rí for mBruig, is é emir ar iar ngail,
ō Srub Cermna co Srub Brain, ōnd ocian thīar[2] co muir sair.

Lugaid namá rogab rīgi di maccaib Dāre. Ba hē ba rí ria nAilill Mośaulum for Mumain. Ailill iarsin tricha bliadan co fagbāil in ciūil ō hEss Māge .i. Fer hÍ mac Eogabail. Is don Lugaid-so asrubrad hi sennathib:

Ba rí, ba fili, ba fāith, ba breithem blāith, caur fri níth,
huā Sidbailg, sīth co trāig, ba gnīm do rāith a ndognīth.

Is hé an Lugaid-so ba rí for Mume intan dobreth arances mbrethe alLeith Cuind co Mumain, co n-erbairt in fochmarcith fri Lugid Lágde, rí side 7 file:

[fo. 95*a*2] 'Mo Luigid Luigde cluinde[2] fír n-aicnith cotabair dar mac m'orbe n-athar.'

Frisgart Lugaid: 'Fír[3] mná báithe sceo gāithe dlomthairsi conoí conbersi rofitir contaibir toilsi fortoing firu conlegat curpu fri bāise būad rathsi fri bās sōeraib sceo dōeraib fortoing a clanna. bas gāeth nach claind cummascfa fri fōentrecha folma, ar is bāeth nech conid robuith ruici.'

[1] thiair MS. [2] leg. cluinte [3] leg. fir?

city were named from the name of the king; for he was king and the eldest among the sons of Míl of Spain,—son of Airgid, son of Aldóit, son of Noinden, son of Nemnuall, son of Faebar, son of Ainge, son of Scott, son of Glass, son of Glúnfind, son of Lámfind, son of Agnoman, son of Taithe, son of Both, son of Eo, son of Aeth, son of Aer, son of Rachaiar, son of Srau, son of Esru, son of Baath, son of Jabath, son of Gomer, son of Japheth, son of Noah, son of Lamech, son of Methuselah, son of Enoch, son of Jareth, son of Mahalaleel, son of Cainan, son of Enos, son of Seth, son of Adam, son of the living God.

Said his druid to Dáre: "Good though thy sons are, only one of them will rule after thee, viz. Lugaid Lágde." For this Dáre Doimthech was king in Tara. He is one of the five Dáres that were in Tara from Munster; and it was through his valour of great kingship that his . . . rule was achieved, whence it was said in ancient poems:

'Dáre Doimthech dealt a draught of blood upon every stream, so that he left his stories of kingship without concealment.

'Dáre Doimthech was king over Brug; 'tis he . . ., from Srub Cermna[1] to Srub Brain,[2] from the western ocean to the sea in the east.'

Of the sons of Dáre, Lugaid only took kingship. 'Twas he who was king over Munster before Ailill Mosaulum. Thereupon Ailill ruled thirty years till the finding of the musical instrument[3] at Ess Máge,[4] viz. Fer Í[5] son of Eogabal. Of this Lugaid it has been said in ancient poems:

'He was a king, he was a poet, he was a seer, he was a gentle judge, a hero in battle, the grandson of Sidbolg,—peace as far as the strand, whatever he did was an instantaneous deed.'

This is that Lugaid who was king over Munster when the . . . of judgment was brought out of Leth Cuinn[6] to Munster, when the interrogator said to Lugaid Lágde, who was both king and poet: 'My Lugaid Luigde, listen to the truth of nature . . . my father's heritage.'

Lugaid answered: 'Men, foolish and wise women &c.'[7]

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[1] The Old Head of Kinsale. [2] See *Dinds.*, § 54. [3] See Cormac's poem in LL. p. 27a. [4] i.e. the waterfall of Caherass on the Maigue, half-way between Adare and Croom.

[5] He is called Fer fí in Anecdota II, p. 4, § 6.

[6] i.e. the northern half of Ireland. [7] I cannot translate the rest.

Bói ïarum Ailill Mosaulum *trichait* bliadan irrīgu Muman. Sadb ingen Chuind a rīgin, ba sí conbert 7 ronalt Mac Con mac Luigdech hō a maici. Trí tric[h]a[i]t bliadan æs nAilella huile .i. *tricha* bliadan ria rīgu, 7 *tricha* hirrīgu 7 *tricha* iar rīgu. Mac Con doall a rīghe aire 7 romarb secht maccu Ailella, a brāthriu 7 brāthair a māthar .i. Art mac Cuind hi cath Mucruime. Sægal immurgu Maic Con tricha bliadan ria rīgu co fagbāil in chiūl occ hEs Māge 7 secht mbliadna do Mac Con i nAlpain for longais 7 tricha bliadan irrīgu hĒirenn 7 sé mís iar tuidecht a Temuir. Is don Mac Con-so asrubairt Sadb:

'Ba trom modh tabairt chumlaind do Mac Con;
ní būi i nhÉre cona lí inge Coirpri Gal[a] fili.

Ba trom n-ērim do Mac Con tuidecht ille, techt inond;
imderc[b] fairge co ba dī, edh[c] dorigni in rígfili.

D'oénmac Luigdech nīrbo lén, amal ba síl na fer trén,
turcbāil catha fri mac Cuind la secht maccu Mosauluim.

Gabais Mac Con tīr mBanbæ gach leth co glasmuir glēdend,
tricha bliadan, án hūaland, rombūi hi rīgu hĒirenn.'

Is don chiūl dano asrubairt Sadb:

'Mairg dam-sa aníu, mairg do C[h]líu fofrīth[d] Fer hI inna heō,
conidapath Art mac Cuind ocus secht maic Mosauluim.'

I nŌchtor Clári robói Ailill 7 Rāith Ailella hi Cláriu [fo. 95*b*1] atcīther di chéin 7 nī fagabair i n-ocus. Comamser 7 Art mac Cuind Chētchathaigh maic Feidlimthi.

Lotar didiu maic Ailella do śaigid brāthar a māthar [.i.] Art mac Cuind. A comalta 7 a mbrāthair leo .i. Mac Con mac Luigdhe[ch] ar

[a] read *Goll*. [b] read *imthecht*? [c] inserted by a later hand [d] fobrith MS.

[1] Coirpre Goll m. Bríóin m. Fiachach Fidgenti m. Dáire Cherbba m. Ailella Flainn Bic m. Fiachach Mullethain, Rawl. B. 502, p. 152*a*.

So Ailill Mośaulum was thirty years in the kingship of Munster. Sadb daughter of Conn was his queen. It is she who conceived and who reared Mac Con son of Lugaid from his boyhood. Ninety years was Ailill's entire age, viz. thirty years before he became king, thirty years in kingship, and thirty years after his kingship. Mac Con it was who deprived him of his kingship, and who slew the seven sons of Ailill, his brothers, and the brother of his mother, viz. Art son of Conn, in the battle of Mucrime. The lifetime of Mac Con, however, was thirty years before he became king till the finding of the musical instrument at Ess Máge, and seven years in Alba in exile, and thirty years in the kingship of Ireland, and six months after coming from Tara. 'Tis of this Mac Con that Sadb has said:

'It was heavy work to wage an equal battle with Mac Con; there was no one in Ireland with his splendour but Cairbre Goll[1] the poet.

'It was a heavy journey for Mac Con to come hither, to go beyond: to cross the sea twice, that is what the king and poet[2] did.

'To Lugaid's only son it was no hardship, as he was an offspring of champions, to raise battle against Conn's son with the seven sons of Mośaulum.

'Mac Con seized the land of Banba on every side as far as the bright-coloured green sea: thirty years, glorious . . ., he was in the kingship of Ireland.'

Again, of the harp Sadb has said:

'Woe to me this day, woe to Cliu,[3] that Fer 'I has been found in his yew-tree! whence Art mac Cuinn has perished, and the seven sons of Mośaulum.'

Ailill was in Uachtar Clári (the Height of Clare), and the fort of Ailill in Clare[4] is seen from afar and is not found near. He and Art son of Conn of the hundred battles, son of Fedlimid, were contemporaries.

Then the sons of Ailill went to seek their mother's brother, Art son of Conn; their foster-brother and their (uterine) brother was

[2] I take *rig-ḟili* here as a dwandwa compound, like *drúith-chathmíl* below.

[3] The eastern half of county Limerick.

[4] A hill in county Limerick near Duntrileague.

ba di Dārfīni cechlaflaith. Forcceatt in cruit ar a cind isind ess. Fer hÍ mac Eogabail occ a senmaim for Āth Caille oc hEss Māge. Téta argait inda chruit, carra óir fuirri. Condālet a fīanlag, immagonat oc cosnam a crotta. Dofuit nōnbur do muintir Maic Con. Ort side secht n-airgne dia haittib dara hēsi. Loingtha īarum a hÉre co mbūi i nAlbain īar madmaim catha Chind Abrat. Isiu chath asbert Mac Con īar marbad a drūithchathmīl[ed] .i. Dodēra:

'Nī héla gáríni ō luith Dodēre;
cia tibu, it m'āgīni di hēis drúthán Dāríni.'

Doluid īarum Mac Con cind sect mbliadan co slūag Bretan lais co ngab Insi Mod is tuaisciurd.[1] Doluid Art mac Cuind ar a chend 7 secht maic Ailella Mośauluim doa ndīlgund huili. Consáiter cath eturru fo chumlund hic Āth Mucraime hi crīch Chondacht .i. secht cét di cechtarde in dá lethe. Folaig Mac Con dā trian a slūaig hi talum 7 dognīth secht mēich lais di grāin chatha céin rombúi i nAlbain. Tūargabsat chend in dā trian robātar isin talmain di muintir Maic Con ō doessith in cath fo chumlund. Maidti ria Mac Con for Art mac Cuind 7 for maccu Ailella Mośauluim 7 gabais Mac Con rīgi nÉirenn īarsin trichoit mbliadan. Is din chath-sin asbert Sadb ingen C[h]uind in rann:

'Olc hūair dam-sa, olc do Chlíu for frīth Fer[2] hÍ 7 dā hēu,
conidapath Art mac Cuind ocus secht maic Mośauluim.'

Is do flaithius Maic Con rogabad in rand airdire:

Gabais Mac Con tír mBanbæ 7 rl.

[1] tuairciurd MS. [2] fir MS.

with them, viz. Mac Con son of Lugaid,[1] for every other ruler was of the Dárfine. They find the harp before them at the waterfall. Fer 'I son of Eogabal was playing it upon 'Ath Caille (the Ford of the Wood)[2] at Ess Máge. There were strings of silver in the harp, pegs of gold upon it. Their warrior-bands meet; they fight between them for the possession of the harp. Of Mac Con's people nine fall. He dealt seven slaughters to his fosterers after that. Then he was exiled from Ireland so that he was in Alba after the rout of the battle of Cenn Abrat. In the battle after the slaying of his jester and battle-soldier, Dadéra Mac Con said:

'Not a little laugh escapes since Dadéra is gone; though I smile ...
... after the jester of the Dárfine.'

Afterwards at the end of seven years Mac Con went with a host of Britons with him and seized the isles of Clew Bay in the north. Art son of Conn and the seven sons of Ailill Mośaulum went to meet him in order to destroy them all. At the ford of Mucrime in the territory of Connacht an equal battle is waged between them, seven hundred on either side. Mac Con hides two-thirds of his host in the earth, and while he was in Alba seven bushels of 'battle-seeds'[4] had been made for him. When the battle stood, the two thirds of Mac Con's people who were in the earth appeared, and Art son of Conn and the sons of Ailill Mośaulum were routed by Mac Con, who thereupon held the kingship of Ireland for thirty years. Of that battle Sadb daughter of Conn spoke the quatrain:

'An evil hour to me, evil to Cliu, when Fer 'I was found in his yew-tree, whence Art son of Conn and the seven sons of Mośaulum perished.'

Of the reign of Mac Con the famous quatrain has been sung:

'Mac Con seized the land of Banba,' &c.

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[1] According to RC. XIII, p. 436, only Eogan and Lugaid mac Con went.

[2] According to Hogan's Onomasticon 'Ath Caille is on the Shannon between Limerick and the wood of Cratloe, at or near Thomond Bridge.

[3] As to this battle see the text edited by Miss Scarre in *Anecdota from Irish Manuscripts*, II, p. 76 ff., and the literature there cited.

[4] Or 'caltrops,' Nennius' *semen bellicosum*: see Whitley Stokes' note in RC. XIII, p. 454, n. 4.

Dognīat chóri Mac Con 7 in senrí Mosaulum īar tuidecht do Mac Con a Temuir cona himirge 7 īar fácbāil a rīgi la Cormac mac Airt. Dogní Mac Con fleid dō 7 im-[fo. 95*b*2] chorastar Ailill marbad *Maic* Con. Nī léic Sadb aní-sein 7 *bert* robud dó, ar ba himmuniu lé-si Mac Con andate a secht *maic*. Asbert [f]ris nemacallaim Ailella etir. Is īarsin dochumli Mac Con cona muintir i nDesmumain contardad tōeb fri muir, a*mail* donrarngart Cessirne file Cuind Chētchathaig .i.

'Ascuchfa do síl sōer slissu fri fairge fond';

7 d*ano* ba hūatiu hi feraib oldās Ailill.

Tadill Mac Con a sruith do chelebrad dó. Dobert aigid fri aigid. Dosādis Ailill a fīacail hi ngrūad *Maic* Con di thecosc conid erbalad ria ndē nōmaide. Is and asbert Sadb fri Mac Con: 'Cisi fuil fuil fort agid?' ol si. 'Nī *hansa*,' ol Mac Con, 'fīacail Ailella domhárailL.' 'Fé frisin fīacail!' ol si, 'noch ní taidber nī do-som is eslind det-siu, is fīacail *maic* thíri rotchummi.' Is de-sin asrubert si:

'Is hē fīacail dian duit[a] rí, rotbí fīacail fidbui,
rogab sīabrad do delbad, is dirsan in tiughcelebrath.

Gaib do daim, beir didan do ślūaig do muir,
fort dofīastar in[b] bair, atotmīastar nach tain.'

Documli ass cona ślūag i nDesmumain dochum mara. Is dind fechtasin forfācaib hué dó hi Cúil Mbrocholl .i. tipra; is occu atā othorlige *Maic* Con 7 Macnía 7 cheithri *maic*-side .i. Dau 7 Trien 7 Echu Badamnai 7 Luigthech Lāmfota 7 fīann Aeda Duib 7 Cathmol mac hIrp 7 Find hūa Bāiscni 7 hUsīne 7 Cáilti cāincass 7 Mac Con cona c[h]élib 7 ben *Maic* Con and .i. Dárīne ingen Dedad *maic* Sin.

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[a] = dtuit. [b] or *ni*?

[1] Cessirne's prophecy is cited in the story called *Airne Fingein* (*Anecdota*, II, p. 8); but the line here quoted is not found there. [2] *nómaide* = *trí tráth*.

[3] In Laud 610, fo. 99b1, Cúl Mbrocholl hi Cailc Ciarraigi is mentioned

Mac Con and the old king Mosaulum make peace after Mac Con, leaving his kingship with Cormac son of Art, had come from Tara with his wandering host. Mac Con makes a feast for him; and Ailill planned to slay him. Sadb did not permit that, and gave him warning, for dearer to her was Mac Con than her seven sons. She told him not to converse with Ailill at all. Thereupon Mac Con with his people proceeds into Desmond, keeping along the sea, as Cessirne, the poet of Conn of the hundred battles, had prophesied,[1] saying:

'Thy noble race will move along the coasts by the ocean's expanse';

and moreover he had fewer men than Ailill. Mac Con visits his senior to bid farewell to him. He put face to face. Ailill fixed his tooth in Mac Con's cheek as a warning that he would die before three days and three nights.[2] Then said Sadb to Mac Con: 'What blood is that upon thy face?' says she. 'It is easily said,' says Mac Con; 'Ailill's tooth has touched me.' 'Woe for the tooth!' says she; 'for whatever . . . to him is danger to thee; it is a wolf's fang that has wounded thee!' Thence she said:

'This is a tooth by which a king falls, a poisonous tooth has wounded thee; contortion has seized thy shape—alas for the last farewell!

'Betake thee to thy house! carry the remnant of thy host to the sea! he will be avenged on thee . . ., he will attack thee any time.'

He departs with his host into Desmond towards the sea. It is from that expedition he has left descendants of his at Cúil Mrocholl[3] (viz. a well). With them is the grave of Mac Con, and Macnia [son of Mac Con] and his four sons, viz. Dau and Trien and Echu Badamna and Lugaid Longhand, and the *fían* of Aed the Black, and Cathmol son of Erp,[4] and Find ua Báiscne and Usíne and Cáilte Cáinchass (the Fair and Curly) and Mac Con with his companions and Mac Con's wife are there, viz. Dáríne daughter of Deda son of Sen.

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together with Cúl Cruithnechta and Cúla Bóendraigi as having been given by Cairbre mac Crimthainn [sixth cent.] as *éric* for the three sons of Fiachra Gáiríne slain in the battle of Clúas 'Ola (*is hé Coirpre m. Crimthainn dobert na tri cúla i n-éric na tri mac Fiachrach Gáirine dochertar i cath Cluaise 'Ola*).

[4] Identical with Cathmael m. Firchorb, *Anecd.*, II, p. 76, Cathmal mac Cirp, LL. 146*a*27.

Tricho buiden lín Maic Con 7 tricho chét in cach buidhin. Etha ō hAilill co Ferchess mac Commāin (.i. i Cūl Mbrochaill fuit) nād seches forainm do co Bregon. Senfēnnith 7 senfer teglaig[1] do Ailill. Fōidis *didiu* Ferchis hi slicht immirge Maic Con da goin etir a slōg. Totét allchomut inna diaid con[d]atarraid hirRāith Hūa nEchach i n-ōenach ríg Rāithlind. Is andsain asbert Find triasa n-imbas for-[fo. 96a1] osnai: 'Fer illurg!' ol sē. 'Subaide ōic fria lín,' ol Mac Con. 'Fer illurg!' ol Find. 'Subaith cach n-ōthath,' ol Mac Con. Inlā Ferc[h]ess etir sen 7 seslig for a lāim tarsa ṅglend andair inna ndiaid siar 7 dicain forsin slig, co n-erbart: 'Rince marince sech eris rohisrig co ainm hitir dā comainm.' Conlūaster īarsein in gāi dia lāim Ferchess, conluith tria Mac Con inna charpat, cu fil a ailcha imbi cossindiu.

Luid Find hūa Bāiscni for slicht Ferchiss do dīgail Maic Con, ar is Find ba fēnnid do suidiu, conidgegoin cind secht mbliadan oc Lind Ferchis for Bandai, dia fūair in casnaidi lasin sruth særas Ferchis. Asberat alaile is a nEss Māge romarbad Ferchiss dia secht mblīa*dan*. Is and asrubairt Finn triasa n-imbas forosnai:

'Sund Ferchessi fossugud,
i nEs Māge māmugud,
īar mōrgnīmaib lūath;
dorròchair caur trēnchingeth
īar mōrgnīmaib lūath;
dotung dom Dīa tigernmas
luige cāich i mbith:
tofesar gnīm guinaitte,
Mac Con bīth hi sund.' ∴ Sund.

Scēla Maic Con 7 Aililla corice sō.

[1] tedlaig MS.

Thirty bands was the number of Mac Con, three thousand in each band.

A message was sent by Ailill to Ferchess son of Commán (he was in Cúil Mrochaill, ... to Bregon[1]) an old *fían*-warrior and an ancient member of Ailill's household. Then he sent Ferchess on the track of Mac Con's wandering host for the purpose of slaying him among his troops. He goes ... in his pursuit and came up with them at the fortress of the Hui Echach[2] in the place where the king of Raithlind holds fairs. 'Tis there Finn said, using the incantation called *imbas forosna*: 'A man on the track!' said he. 'Warriors will be the more delighted at the number,' said Mac Con. 'A man on the track!' said Finn. 'One man is always good sport,'[4] said Mac Con. Meanwhile Ferchess ... and struck ... across the glen from the east after them westward, and he chants a spell upon the spear, saying: '*Rince*,' &c.[5] Thereupon the spear moved from the hand of Ferchess and went through Mac Con in his chariot, and his tomb-stones are there about him till this day.

Finn ua Báiscni went on the track of Ferchess to avenge Mac Con (for 'tis Finn that was the leader of his *fían*), until he slew him at the end of seven years at the Pool of Ferchess on the Bann, when he found the chips carried down by the river which Ferchess had set free. Others say that Ferchess was slain at Ess Máge after seven years. 'Tis then Finn said through *imbas forosna*:

'Here is the abode[6] of Ferchess, at Ess Mage . . . swiftly after great deeds; a great heroic champion[7] has fallen swiftly after great deeds. To my lordly god I swear the oath of every one in the world, a ... deed will be avenged, Mac Con was slain here.'

So far the stories of Mac Con and Ailill.

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[1] Near Clonmel. [2] = Iveagh, barony of S.W. and W. Carbery, county Cork.
[3] i.e. at there being only one man in pursuit.
[4] Literally, 'delightful is every singleness.'
[5] cf. Cormac's Glossary s.v. *ringene*. [6] i.e. the grave.
[7] Literally, 'a hero of a great champion.'

Is īar nguin Maic Con asrubairt Ailill:

'Tricho blīadan dam cen tlī i n-æs ocus dīmlithi,
conomthūarcaib as mo ches au[r]chor maic Comāin Ferchis.'

Adrala īarum 7 sonirtì 7 marb Mac Con di athchumu ōn trāth co arailiu, conidapath hi Col Rophut 7 is ann atā a fert .i. ba rocol fert .i. ba roāg a héc 7 rl.

It is after the slaying of Mac Con that Ailill said:

'Thirty years to me without comfort in old age and in feebleness, until the cast of Ferchess son of Commán lifted me out of my stupor.'

. . . . .[1] and Mac Con was dead from his wound within twenty-four hours, and died in Col Rophut, where his grave is (viz. the grave was a great crime, i.e. his death was a great fight).[2]

[1] Something seems omitted in the Irish text.

[2] An etymological gloss on the name Col Rophut.

IV. [Erard mac Coisse cecinit.]

From MS. B. IV. 2, fo. 149*b*.

1 A Mōr Maigne Moigi Siūil, becc a dainme essb*aid* n-eōin,
mass āilli ēc duit fodēin, nāch bēt[1] dot ç[h]ēill cāiniudh geōidh? ×

2 A inghen Dondc[h]ada druin, ara fil borrfadho ban,
nāch cūalo scēl, solma sin, inn ūair fotgeir do géd glan?

3 Nāch cūalo g*er*cnat don glēo? is marb Conn Cētchathach cūa,
ocus Corbmac ocus Art, easbach an mac is an t-úa.

4 Nāc[h] cūala dīl Crimthain c[h]ōir meic Fidh*aig* do finn-
c[h]loinn āin?
ocus Eogan taidhlius tess focherd cess for Cliu Māil?

5 Nāch cūala an [n]gnīmh ngeimlech ngarcc? marb Eoch*aid*
feidl*ech* na fferg,
ocus Criomt[h]ann croide nīadh ocus Lugoidh dā rīabh ndearcc.

6 Nāch cūala in [n]-iuboile n-airc da bfūair Iugaine nūall
n-uilc,
nāch cūalo an foraire fecht da romelt Conaire Cuilt?

7 Nāch cūalo Mongān, mait[h] laoch, di t[h]uitim hi condāil
crīch?
ocus Cermat milbēl mīn mac an Dagda dēin do dīth?

8 Nach cūala an lāmdhait[h] do lot, Cūchulainn, rob ānraith ait,
ocus nochār fannaigh fer do neoch rogabh gāi 'na glaic?

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[1] beth MS. Note the rhyme between *bēt* and *ēc*

[1] Now Moyne village in the centre of the parish of Moyne, 4¾ miles N.E. of Thurles. See Hogan's *Onomasticon*.

[2] A plain in the barony of Eliogarty.

[3] Literally 'if death to thyself is more delightful' (*āilli* = *áilliu*).

[4] Or, perhaps, referring to the news, 'it travels quickly.'

× read: ma sáile éc duit fodéin, / nach bét dot chéill cáine gebid?

Translation.

1 O Mór of Moyne[1] of Mag Siúil,[2] the loss of a bird is a small hurt; if thou wouldst rather die thyself,[3] is it not folly for thy sense to lament a goose?

2 Daughter of stalwarth Donnchad, thou that hast the pride of women, hast thou not heard the news,—thou that art so quick,[4]—while thy pretty goose grieves thee?

3 Hast thou not heard ... of the strife? Dead is Conn of the hundred battles; and Cormac, and Art,—both son and grandson are no more.

4 Hast thou not heard the fate of Crimthann[5] the just, Fidach's son of the glorious fair race, and of Eogan Taidlech in the south, which brought grief upon Cliu Máil[6]?

5 Hast thou not heard of the fierce cruel deed? Dead is Eochaid Feidlech the wrathful, and Crimthann with his champion's courage, and Lugaid of the two red stripes.

6 Hast thou not heard of the dispensation of hardship whence Ugaine[7] found the cry of woe? hast thou not heard of the night-watch once upon a time, whereby Conaire of Colt was crushed?

7 Hast thou not heard that Mongan the goodly hero has fallen at the meeting of boundaries, and that honey-mouthed gentle Cermat, the vehement Dagda's son, has perished?

8 Hast thou not heard that he of the nimble hand has perished, Cuchulinn? he was a delightful champion, and one whom[8] no man ever subdued of all that took spear in hand.

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[5] As to the death of this and other persons mentioned in the poem, see Wh. Stokes, *On the deaths of some Irish heroes*, Rev. Celt., vol. xxiii, p. 303 ff.

[6] cf. LU. p. 119 a: *Temair Fáil cen rig,* *Eogan cen Chliu Máil.*

[7] A poem on the death of Ugaine, beginning

Aided Augaine nárb fann ic Cill Drochet na tromlann

will be found in B. iv. 2, p. 146*b*.

[8] Literally, 'of whom.'

9 Nách cūala an [n]gnīmh ngalann gann, Foth*ad* Canan*n*, clú nāt binn,
ocus an rī[g]fēinnidh rīemh darb ainm tōisech na ufian Finn ?

10 Nach cūala Fergus ciarb ān dár[b]a lán cech lerghus lór,
ocus Manannán mac Lir, a m'anamān min, a Mór ?

11 Geōidh i nĒirinn re linn mBríain, Brīan rogab Ēiblinn co n-ór,
maith cara fil agat Brīan, fīal flaith Chinn Mara, a Mōr.

9 Hast thou not heard of the harsh, deadly deed,—Fothad Canann,—an ill-sounding report,—and the royal champion whose name was Finn, leader of the *fian*?

10 Hast thou not heard of Fergus, though he was brilliant, of whose fame every great mighty sea was full, and of Manannan son of Ler, O my dear little soul, O Mór?

11 There are geese in Ireland in Brian's time, Brian who rules in golden Eibliu[1]; good is the friend thou hast in Brian, generous is the lord of Kinvara, O Mór.

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[1] The seat of the King of Munster in Sliab Éiblinne.

V. The Finn episode from Gilla in Chomded húa Cormaic's poem "A Rí richid, réidig dam."

Book of Leinster, p. 144*b*.

a

1 I nArd Chaille, cāilti clē, i Múscraigi trī Maige,
a chend síar ri Liaic Sinnaig, adnacht Find cu flathminnaib.

2 Glasdíc ainm dō ar tús tind, meic Morna tucsat fair Find,
secht mbliadna dó i ndeilb doraid fo Loch Rīach fúa[i]r find-c[h]obair.

3 Cétrith Find, bo réim rogda, ruc rīam re maccaib Morna,
'sen Loch nOrbsen ō Loch Rīach timchell Connacht na cāem-scīath.

4 I Mag Coraind co Ess Rúaid, lám ri Cúallig mBréfni mbúain,
ri táeb Sinna, mairg ba mó, cu hEchtge n-aird i n-óenló.

5 Isind ochtmad bliadain bí ar tadall Temra Dāthí
romarb [Aillén] bó lán lám do chaindil tuid o thimpán.

6 'Timpān ri cotlud!' ar cách, les cecha samna, gním gnáth,
cecha bliadna, būan brostud, in chaindel[1] ar cāemloscud.

7 Arsin gnīm [sin] rafāe Find ri Saidb sochraid massech mind,
ocus Sadb, do thāibthid treb ba Find cáem a cétmunter.

8 Dalluid Find ra héicsi n-aird ar ecla Cuind c[h]laidebgairg,
Cethern mac Fintain frecair, rap é a aite airchetail.

9 Tucait fianna Find īar feiss do dīgail Orcbēil éicis,
in ben síde a Sléib Slánga rolāi dí in [n]gním ngargdána.

10 Dia ragab fiannas cu feib rap é a uide in n-aidchi-sin:
ó Brí Ele, dūthaig tor, cu Sliab Mairg meic Eidlicon.

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[1] chaem *add.* MS.

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[1] Literally, 'at the hard (= very) beginning.'
[2] Literally, 'shape' or 'manner.'
[3] Literally, 'in the eighth live year.'

V. The Finn episode from Gilla in Chomded húa Cormaic's poem "A Rí richid, réidig dam."

Translation.

1 In Ard Caille, sinister harsh fate! in Muskerry of the three plains, his head west against the Fox Stone, Find with princely treasures was buried.

2 Glasdic was his name originally,[1] the sons of Morna named him Finn; seven years he was in hard plight,[2] under Loch Ree he found fair help.

3 Finn's first race—it was a chosen course—which he ever ran before the sons of Morna, into Loch Corrib from Loch Ree around Connaught of the beautiful shields.

4 Into Mag Corainn, to Assaroe, along Cuallach of Brefne of lasting fame, by the side of the Shannon—woe that was greatest!—to lofty Slieve Aughty in one day.

5 In the eighth year of his life[3] when he was visiting Dathi's[4] Tara, he slew [Aillén],[5] whose hand was full with candle, . . . with *timpán*.

6 "A *timpán* for sleep!' said all, the practice at each Hallowe'en, a customary deed; every year, lasting incitement, the candle was burning brightly.[6]

7 After that deed Finn slept with shapely Sadb, a stately diadem; and Sadb had for a household companion Finn as her husband.

8 For fear of sword-fierce Conn Finn went to learn noble poetry: Cethern Fintan's son, he was his tutor in poetic composition.

9 After a feast the *fiana* bring Finn to avenge the poet Orcbél; the fairy-woman from Slieve Slánga had achieved the fierce bold deed.

10 When he had joined the *fían* with worth, this was his journey on that night: from Bri Éle, a veritable tower, to the mountain of Marg son of Edlicon.[7]

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[4] For a different rendering of *dathí* as an epithet of Tara, see L. C. Stern, Zeitschrift II, p. 335 note. The name *Dathí* was accented on the last syllable.

[5] Something is omitted in the original.

[6] For a full account of the incidents here alluded to see *Agallamh na Senórach* ed. Whitley Stokes, l. 1662 ff.

[7] nom. Edliuc?

11 Ō Slēib Mairge, gnímrad gand, síar co Slíab dā Chích nAnand,
cu Inber Colptha rachind[1] ri hoiss Fiac*laig* meic Conchind.

12 Ō Inber Colptha, cuman, cu Slíab Slānga sāerUlad,
ōtá sein, ba tolgda in tóir, co Inber Colptha achētóir.

13 Radīth Find hūa Fidga ic feiss i ndīgail Orcbēil éicis,
tíar oc Cíchib, comal ngrind, di śleig Fiac*laig* meic Conchind.

14 Dā śenrand rachūala Find i ndumu Chích ūasa chind:
'ragáet hūa Fidga fossad' dun rand díb ba dergthossach.

15 'Is neim in gāe,' tossach trén don rund aile nínaithgén,
and rascūala īar ngním gaile aidchi samna sorchaide.

16 Secht n-aige ic Sléib Blod[2] meic Con cétfĭadach Find, feidm fin[n]dron,
cind secht mblīadna fo míad mind ic Abaill na Fían forfind.

17 Long lán d'ór, d'argut āga tuc dō in ben a Slēib Slānga,
derb lind iss ē cétchrod cain tuc dond fĕin re ardfodail.

18 D'Ērnaib Cermna a māthair mūad Torba ingen hEich inn ūag,
Find mac Geōir mac dá máthair, rí Lāmairgi ind lāech-lāthair.

19 Is d'athair Chāilti na celg bo ainm Lethi Lethancherd,
Cāilti, tacrait lind lāidi, mac sethar Find findchāemi.

20 Ār[3] bī bruth d'echaib[4] ríg Ruis do mnāi ra comlund a chuiss,
andsin rucad Cāilti cāid i n-ōenuch corcra Colmāin.

21 Is é ócnfer d'fíannaib Find cusa mberar[5] genelach grind,
in Cāilte-sin, sēgda de, ūad rachinset Cāiltraige.

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[1] = roching [2] .i. Bladma, gloss [3] = ór [4] di echaib MS.
[5] Read *cus'mberar*

11 From Slieve Margue, a rare deed, westward to the mountain of the Two Paps of Anu, to Inver Colptha he ran a race with the deer (?) of Fiaclach, Conchenn's son.

12 From Inver Colptha, it is remembered, to Slieve Slánga of the noble Ulstermen ; thence—the pursuit was fierce—to Inver Colptha straightway.

13 In revenge of the poet Orcbél Finn slew Ua Fidga at a feast in the west at the Paps, a brave achievement, with the spear of Fiaclach, Conchenn's son.

14 Two staves Finn heard at the mound of the Paps above him : "Stalwarth Ua Fidga has been slain" was the exact beginning of the first stave.

15 "Venom is the spear" was the powerful beginning of the second stave,—I know it not; there after the deed of valour on bright Allhallowe'en he heard them.

16 Seven deer by Slieve Bloom was Finn's first chase,—a brave and stout exertion—at the end of seven years crowned with honour, at the famous Apple-tree of the *fiana*.

17 A vessel full of gold, of glorious silver, the woman out of Slieve Slánga gave to him ; we know for certain that this was the first fair treasure which he took to the *fian* for noble distribution.

18 His glorious mother was of the Érainn of Cermna, Torba, the perfect[1] daughter of Ech ; Finn mac Geoir was his mother's son, king of Lámraige of heroic strength.

19 The father of Cáilte of the wiles was called Lethi Lethancherd ; Cáilte, lays tell us, was the son of Finn's fair and beautiful sister.

20 When the steeds of the king of Ross were aglow racing against a woman on foot,[2] then worthy Cáilte was born, at the glorious fair of Colman.[3]

21 He is the only one of the *fiana* of Finn up to whom a pleasant pedigree is carried, that Cáilte,—happy event!—from him sprang the Cáiltraige.

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[1] Or, 'maiden.'

[2] As to this episode see my edition of *Cath Finntrága*, p. x.

[3] This fair was held in Leinster. See Joyce, *A Social History of Ancient Ireland*, vol. ii, p. 464.

22 Ochtur do Chāiltī im chend Find, Corra is ūa Daim derg dilind,
Cas, Cur, Escrú *is* Aithnī, Oll is Nena nūagnithi.

23 Is é sét is ferr fūair Find, fidchell Chrimthaind, lānderb lim,
ra[da]sfolaig Fīachra Fáil inn-airiur Chrimthaind Nīad Náir.

24 Glassi fūair Find, fecht réil rīam, ní ní acht airget a findgrīan,
brunnid sairdes sech in scē *ocus* acus[1] d'Albine.

25 Atbert Ossín: 'In sét séim is ingantu fūair Find féin,
is é cen dærmūich dailles cochlān cæmdlūith Crothrainne.'

26 Ór a indech, airget foé, mín re cnes a chocoé,
ba cú, ba duine, ba dam ra impūd, ra aitherrach.

27 Fiū cōicait cumal cipē, rognīth i Tīr Tairṅgere,
re trichait ṁblīadna i Maig Mell ri cōicait cīalla cēme*n*d.

28 Tricha sét, nī gāes fir buirb, tall Find a crāes in chorrbuilg,
īar nguin Glonda 'cunn áth oll is Lē[i]th Lūachra na llūathbond.

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[1] facus MS.

22 There were eight Cáiltes gathered around Finn: Corra and the Ua Daim Derg dílinn, Cass, Cur, Escru and Aithne, Oll and Nena Nuagnithe.

23 This is the best treasure which Finn found, Crimthann's *fidchell*, I know it for certain; Fiachra of Fál had hidden it in the land of Crimthann Nia Nár.

24 Once—a famous expedition—Finn found a stream, nothing but silver was its fair gravelly bottom; it springs past the hawthorn to the south-east and close to Albine.

25 Ossín said: 'The most marvellous dainty jewel which Finn himself found, that is, without vaporous ignorance,[1] the fair close-woven hood of Crothrainne.'

26 Gold is its woof, silver underneath it, soft to the skin is its lining; you will be hound, man, or deer as you turn it, as you change it.

27 It is worth fifty bond-maids whatever, it was made in the Land of Promise, for thirty years in Mag Mell, with fifty . . .

28 Thirty jewels—it is not the wisdom of an ignorant man—Finn took out of the jaws of the crane-bag, after he had slain Glonna at the vast ford and Liath Luachra of the swift deeds.

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[1] Literally, 'without the vile smoke of blindness.'

VI. The Chase of Síd na mBan Finn and the Death of Finn

From Egerton 1782, fo. 20 b 1.

1. [S]ealg romhōr roḟairsing do commór*ad* le Find oc*us* le fíanuib ágmura airmderga Ērenn fa Sīth na mBan Finn oc*us* fa Ṡīth ar Femind 7 fa oirrther Muighi Feimin oc*us* fa lerg*a* Lūachra Deghadh. Ocus dochúadar maithe na fēne 7 a n-aiccme*da* ūaisli leisin rí[g] ḟēinnidh do chommōr*ad* na selga-sin .i. clanna Bāiscne oc*us* cla*nna* Morna oc*us* clanna Duibdīthrib oc*us* clanna Nemnuind oc*us* cla*nna* Rónāin oc*us* cla*nna* Smóil oc*us* aicme Duibdāboireann oc*us* in gnāthḟían uile archena.

2. Dosuidhighedh oc*us* dosrethnaigedh in tsealg leó fo ḟeadhuibh 7 fo ḟāsaig*ib* 7 fo ḟánglenntuiph na ferann ba coimnesa dóip 7 fo muighib réidhe roáilli oc*us* fo chailltib clithardlúithe oc*us* fó dhoiredhuib dosleathna dīmóra. Ocus dochúaid gach duine fo *leth* d' fían*aib* hĒrenn[1] ina dumha sealga 7 ina lāth*air* licthe 7 ina berna báeg*ail* mar no[2] gnāthaighdís cosgur gacha sealga do chur roimi sin. Ocus nírb inonn dóip in lá-sin 7 gach lái ele, oir do ceil*ed* in selg-sin orra, *co* nāch fūaratur mucc nā míl nā brecc nā brocc nā dam nā eilit nā mang nā ógláegh all*aid* asa nd*ergfad* nech díb a lá[i]m in lá-sin. Ocus tucsat as in oidhchi-sin co himsnímach aithmēl*ach*, ocus do ēirgedur isin maidin mochṡoluiss arnamārach 7 do srethnuig*ed* sealg leō fan Sinainn sribúaine 7 fan Eachtge aird adhfúair ocus fa ṡeanmagh nAghar ma[i]c Úmóir 7 do ceil*ed* conāch sealga in lā-sin orra amail do ceil*ed* in cétlá.

3. Ocus a maidin in tres lá im*morru* do chōirgedar a cūanarta cícmura croibgliga co comáentadach fa Seiscenn na n-Aig*ed* 7 fana crícha fa coimnesa dó. Et nírfrecr*ad* in lā-sin iat, acht mur gach lá ele. Ba mór machtnugud menman le Finn 7 le fían Ērenn uili innī-sin. Et a

[1] herinn MS. [2] an MS.

The Chase of Síd na mBan Finn and the Death of Finn

1. A great extensive chase was held by Finn and by the valorous, red-weaponed *fiana* of Ireland throughout Síd na mBan Finn and Síd ar Femen and the eastern part of the Plain of Femen and the slopes of Luachair Dedad. And the chiefs of the *fian* and their noble tribes went with the royal leader of the *fiana* to hold that chase, even the children of Baiscne and the children of Morna and the children of Dubh-dithribh and the children of Nemnann and the children of Ronan and the children of Smol and the tribe of Dubh da bhoirenn and all the other ordinary *fian*.

2. The chase was arranged and spread by them throughout the woods and wildernesses and sloping glens of the lands nearest to them, and throughout smooth, delightful plains and close-sheltering woods and broad-bushed, vast, oak forests. And each man of the *fiana* of Ireland went separately to his mound of chase and his site of throwing and his gap of danger, as[1] they were wont to arrange every victorious chase before that. But on that day it was not the same for them as on every other day, for the chase failed them, so that they found neither wild swine nor hare nor wolf[2] nor badger nor deer nor hind nor roe nor fawn on which any one of them might redden his hand that day. And that night they spent in sorrow and disgrace; and on the morrow they rose in the early bright morning; and the chase was extended by them along the Shannon of green currents and throughout lofty, cold Slieve Aughty and throughout the ancient Plain of Adhar son of Umor; but that day also the luck of the chase failed them as it had done on the first day.

3. However, in the morning of the third day they arranged their eager, nimble-footed packs of hounds jointly throughout Sescenn na nAighe and the districts nearest to it. But that day also they had no response, but as on every other day. Great was the astonishment of

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[1] The MS. has 'where.'

[2] The MS. has *hrec* 'trout.' Read *bréch*, which is translated.

haithle a sibail 7 a n-aist*ir* 7 a sāeth*air* dōib in tres lá do hsuidh Finn hi tul*aig* airecht*uis* do l*eth*tāeb hSescinn na nAighedh, ocus tāngatur in fīan ina ndronguib 7 ina ndírmadhuip 7 ina mbuidhnib bega bélsgāilte, ina cuirib 7 ina cē*t*uib 7 'na connlánuib muin ar mhuin 7 druim ar dhruim 7 diaidh i ndiaidh da inns*aige*. Ocus do suidetar i n-urt[h]imchill in rí[g]fēin*eda*. Is annsin do fiarfaig ōgl*ach* d'fíanaib hĒrenn d'Finn: 'Cía in lāech dana fert so ara fuilmaid, a Finn?' ar sé. 'Atá a fīr-sin acom-sa duid-si,' ar Find. 'Fert Failbi Ḟinnmaisigh sin,' ar sē, '.i. rí[g]fēn*id* maith dom muintir-si arna marbad do muicc annso .i. torc forbartach For*m*āile secht mbliadna gusinniud. Ocus do marbh in muc-sin deich coin 7 dā fichit dom c[h]onaib-si 7 dechenbor 7 dā fichit dom læchaib maille ris in lā-sin 7 fa maith in lāech atá[1] isin fert-so,' ar Finn, 'inūair fa cath nō comrac dona fīanaib,' ocus dorinne Finn in lāidh ann ag molad Ḟailbe:

'Fert Failbe frecr*ad* in féin a focus[2] nō i n-et*er*cēin
nogur adhnacht in l[ā]ech de do thæb Seiscinn na nAighe.

Cōeco con[3] is cōeca fer luidhsidar leis sunn ar seal,
nocho térno díb uile acht cú ocus énduine.

Fūaratar bās do beruib ōn muic dísgir druimrem*uir*,
(fo. 20 b 2) ro marb coin ocus daoine torc forbartach Formāile.

Fūair in muicc nduib delb[d]a nduind donānic tre cert coml*uind*,
do cuir coin is daoine i fán, gleō dar claided in fertán.

Ba hinmuin lim Failbe flaud in lá do cuir ár na nGall,
do frecr*ad* imnedh is ágh intē fuil isin fertān. Fert.

'Ocus a fīana Ērenn,' ar Finn, 'dogēnam-ne selg na maidni-si amāroch ar in muic úd ó do ceil*ed* selg ocus fíanchosgur ele oruinn. Ocus is uimi do ceil*ed* gach sealg ele oruinn, ūair do bī a tairrngeri dūin comracc risin muic-sin 7 díghēlum a[r] n-anfolta fuirri.'

4. Ocus dochúaidh cona muintir in oidhchi-sin co dúnadh Máilléin meic Midhna .i. ógl*ach* maith do muintir Ḟinn. Ocus is amlaid ro būi Máillén 7 fled mōrchāin móradhbal aici d'Finn 7 d'fīanaib hĒrenn uile. Do hesradh 7 do húrlúachradh in tech n-óla ara geind ocus

[1] 2 MS. [2] *leg.* i n-ocus [3] .i. = MS.

Finn and of all the *fian* of Ireland thereat. And after their march and journey and toil on the third day Finn sat down upon the hill of assembly by the side of Sescenn na nAighe; and the *fian* came towards him in their troops and hosts and small widely scattered bands, in their companies and hundreds and divisions, neck to neck, and back to back, and one after another. And they sat down around the royal leader of the *fiana*. Then a man of the *fiana* of Ireland asked Finn: 'Who is the warrior whose grave this is upon which we are, O Finn?' said he. 'I have the truth of that for thee,' said Finn. 'This is the grave of Failbhe Finnmaisech,' said he, 'a brave royal *fian*-chief of my own household, who this day seven years ago was killed here by a swine, even the giant boar of Formael; and that swine killed fifty of my hounds and fifty of my warriors together with him on that day. And a brave warrior he was who is in this grave,' said Finn, 'when there was battle or contest for the *fiana*.' And then in praise of Failbhe Finn made a lay:

'The grave of Failbhe, who would respond to the *fian* both near and afar, until the warrior was buried by the side of Sescenn na nAighe.

'Fifty hounds and fifty men went with him hither upon a time; of them all but one hound escaped and one man.

'They found death by the tusks of the fierce stout-backed swine: the giant boar of Formael killed both hounds and men.

'He found the black, shapely, dusky swine; it made for us intent on fight; it laid low both hounds and men: a combat whence this grave was dug.

'Dear to me was Failbhe the Red on the day when he wrought a slaughter of the foreigners; he would respond to trouble and challenge—he who lies in this grave.'

'And ye *fiana* of Ireland,' said Finn, 'since other chase and hunting-trophies have failed us, we will make to-morrow morning's chase upon that swine. And it is for this that every other chase has failed us, because it was prophesied to us to encounter that swine, and we will avenge our wrongs upon it.'

4. And that night he went with his people to the stronghold of Maillen, son of Midhna, a noble warrior of Finn's people. And in expectation of them Maillen had a splendid feast prepared for Finn and all the *fiana* of Ireland. The banqueting-hall had been

ro tógbad buird altacha órdacha ann 7 do suidhigedh[1] na slūaig fo mēd i n-ūaisli 7 i n-inmi 7 i n-onóra ar dánuib 7 ar gráduib isin bruidin 7 do folchad na buird do srōl 7 do sída 7 do ṡicir 7 do sindsnáth 7 do sgóraidib scíamglana 7 d'ēdaigib líghda lánáilli 7 do fresla*d* 7 do frithoiled íad do[2] rogha gacha sóidh 7 do tócbad aco annsin blededha buáiltecha buis 7 bánairgit 7 cuirn cáema cumdaighe clochbúadha, ocus ro tógbad ann corn Finn féin .i. Midhlethan a ainm 7 is amlaid robúi in corn-sin 7 dá ghilla imchuir aici .i. Íarratach 7 Athc[h]uingech a n-anmanna, 7 fa maith dliged na deisi-sin .i. in duine maith da tabra*d* gilla díb lán in c[h]uirn, dogheibed cuma*in* óir nō airgit ūadh 7 fa saidhbi*r* imm*orru* íad ō dli*ged* in chuirn-sin. Ocus tarrla frithrusc feichcamnuis 7 fergi eturro in oidche-sin gurmarbsat a chēili hi fīadhnaise na fēni.

5. Ro fás *ceist* mór ag Finn don ghním-sin, coraibe a fat ina tho*cht* gan digh, gan bíadh, gan urgairdiugud menman. 'A rí[g]fēinnid,' ar Māillēn mac Midhna, 'ná cui*red* hi socht *nā* i mbrōn tusa in dís úd do marbad a chéile, ūair mór ndeghlāech do marb*ad* ara dosealb*aib* roimi sút ríam.' 'Is olc lim-sa in dís út,' ar Find, '7 nī da marbad fén fás*us* *ceist* acum, acht inní da fuil a marbad. Ocus tabr*aid* in corn cucom-sa,' ar Finn, ocus tucad in corn 'chum Finn. Ocus adubairt Finn: 'In fetabuir-si, a óga,' ar sē, 'cía thug in corn-sa dam-sa nō cāit a fúarus hé?' 'Nī fetamar, a rī[g]fēinnidh,' ar síat. 'Do ṫeturs-sa,' ar Finn.

6. 'Lá da rab*usa* 7 sib-si ac seilg 7 ac fianchoscur a fedhuib 7 a fásaigib ocus do bad*usa* im dumha ṡealga 7 dīas fénned imarōen rim ann .i. Cāilti 7 Oisín and sút. Ūair dobīdis días fa sech ar timcheall d'fīanuip hĒrenn marōen rim-so acum foraire 7 acom forchoimēt isna hinadaib sealga a mbīnn. Is dóib rānic m' f[orchoimēt] ocus m' foraire in lá-sin, Cāilti 7 Oisīn, 7 do bámhar ag ēistecht re mongur na mīled 7 re sciselbe na sochaide 7 re greadhan na gillanraide 7 re (fo. 21a1) gotha na ngadhar ocus re fetgaire na fer fiad*aig* 7 re lāidhedh na læchraide arna mórchonuib 7 re nūallgāirib na gasraide 7 re sestān na sealga ar gach tóeb dīnn 7 nīr chían do bámur ann, innūair do ēirigh doburcheō drāidhechta dūinn nārbo lēr do nech a chéli

[1] dosuidhid*edh* MS. [2] do do MS.

strewn with fresh rushes, and jointed tables pieced together had been set up in it. And the hosts were seated in the hostel in conformity with their nobility and wealth and honour, according to professions and degrees. And the boards were covered with satin and silk and serge and sendal, and with shining bright napery and delightful coloured cloths, and they were served and waited upon with every choice dainty. And then they raised embossed goblets of crystal and white silver, and beautiful ornamented horns set with precious stones. And Finn's own drinking-horn was raised up; Midhlethan was its name, which was carried by two attendants, Iarratach and Athchuingech by name. And the privilege of those two was valuable; for any noble to whom one of them would present the full of the horn, from him he would receive its equivalent in gold or silver, so that by reason of that horn they became rich. And on that night there fell an outburst of mutual recrimination and anger between them, so that they killed one another in the presence of the *fian*.

5. That deed weighed heavily on Finn's mind, so that for a long time he was silent, without drink or food, or delight of mind. 'O royal chief of the *fiana*,' said Maillen, son of Midhna, 'do not let it make you silent or sad that those two have slain each other; for many a brave warrior has been slain ere this on account of his ill-gotten wealth.' 'I regret those two,' said Finn; 'but I am not so much troubled about their death as about that which gave rise to it. Bring me the horn,' said Finn; and it was brought to him. And Finn said: 'Do ye know, warriors, who gave me this horn, and where I got it?' 'We do not know, O royal *fian*-chief!' said they. '*I* know,' said Finn.

6. 'On a day when I and you were engaged in hunting and victorious chase in woods and wildernesses, and when I was on my mound of chase, and two warriors of the *fian* together with me there, even Cailte and Oisin—for there used to be with me a couple of the *fiana* of Ireland turn and turn about, watching and guarding me in the hunting-grounds where I was,—on that day it fell to Cáilte and Oisin to guard and watch me; and we were listening to the noise of the warriors, and to the din of the multitude, and to the bustle of the attendants, and to the voices of the hounds, and to the whistling of the hunters, and to the inciting of the hounds by the warriors, and to the shouts of the young lads, and to the turmoil of

ag*ainn* ar triūr 7 do ḟágbamur in dumho 7 dochúamur fón fidh fa nessa dūinn 7 ro ṡiremur in fid co fúaramar ess 7 inber 7 abann ann 7 doghabamur bradán ethṙechbrec gacha fir 7 gacha con asin abainn 7 dorinnedh both 7 bēlsgálán linn 7 ro fadaig*ed* morc mōrthinedh aguinn 7 do chaithemur ar lórdāeth*ain* don íasc.

7. 'Ocus ina dhiaidh-sin do chúalamar in ceōl soinemhuil sírechtach síde da chant*ain* inar ḟochuir 7 adubairt Cāilti re hOisín: "Ēirig súas," ar sé, "7 déntar airechus acoin*n* nach mella in ceól sídi sinn." Ocus dorinnedh mar sin hé,' ar Finn, '7 tucamar ass in oidhchi-sin 7 in fīan uile ag ar n-íarr*aid* ar fud na crīch comḟogus 7 dochūamur-ne hi mucha lāi arnamārach gusin duma sealga cétna ocus fúaramar aithech dub dodhealb[d]a dí[f]recra dímór isin dumha ar ar gcind ina ṡuidhi 7 dorinne coimérghi romuinn 7 ro fer fáilti rinn 7 tug a láim ina chuim ocus tug dá chuisl*inn* órda as 7 do sin*n* slithi senma cuir ocus puirt 7 adhbuinn dúinn, innus co coiteōl*ad* aés gonta nō mná re lamn*ad* nō fīall*ach* gal*rach* nō cur*aid* crēchtn*aid*e nō láeich leónta frisin ceól soinemail dorinne. 7 ar sgur don cheól dó tug corn co n-ór a clithar díamuir a édaig 7 tuc am láim-si in corn 7 a lán do midh somesga ṡoóla ann 7 do ibus deoch ass 7 tucus al-láim Oisīn in corn 7 do ibh deoch as 7 tuc al-láim Chāilti in corn 7 do ibh digh ass 7 tuc Cāilti in corn il-láim in athaig.

8. 'Ocus is amlaid robūi in corn-sin 7 chóig imlenda āilli ilgrēsacha ór*aid*e co coimegur gacha cóirighthi ann 7 ól desi et*er* gach dā imml*enn* dīb. Ocus intan fa sub*ach* som*en*m*nach* sinn do conna[c]mar in mbuidhin móir mboirbnertmajr mborr*fadaig* cuguind isin slíab 7 ro fiarf*aig* in fer mór dīm-sa: "Cūich in buiden mór út atcīm isin tulaig ar ar rochtain, a Finn?" ar sé. Ro ḟregrus-sa sin. "Fer nach gab*ann* tār nā tarc*uis*ne ō nech ar domun sút[1] . . . cenn na cathbuiden úd," ar Finn. "Cūich in buiden . . . . úd ele?" ar in t-aith*ech*, "is mō nā tricha fer ar . . . . óem calma curata coimn*ert*mar co . . . inti *con*nruáth*ur* trī cēt immedōn na bun . . . . 7 folt fainnchlechtach fathmannach forórdha fair.

[1] From here onwards the page becomes partly illegible, though better eyes than mine may make out more.

the chase on every side of us. And we had not been there long before a dark, magical mist arose around us, so that none of us three could see the face of the other. And we left the mound, and went through the wood nearest to us searching it until we found in it a waterfall and an estuary and a river. And out of the river we took for every man and every hound a fin-speckled salmon. And a hut and tent were made for us, and a pile of a great fire was kindled by us, and we ate our fill of salmon.

7. 'And thereupon we heard an exquisite, wistful fairy-music being chanted near us, and Cáilte said to Oisin: "Arise," said he, "and let us be on our guard lest the fairy-music beguile us." And so it was done,' said Finn; 'and thus we spent that night. And all the *fian* were seeking us throughout the neighbouring territories. And in the early morning we went to the same hunting-mound and found a black, misshapen, enormous, huge churl sitting on the mound before us, who rose up before us and greeted us. And putting his hand into his bosom he brought out two golden pipes and played a tuneful, harmonious strain of melody for us, so that wounded men or women in travail or a host in sickness, or wounded warriors or lacerated heroes would have fallen asleep at the exquisite music which he made. And when he had ceased with the music he took a drinking-horn adorned with gold out of the hidden shelter of his dress and put it into my hand, and it full of intoxicating mead pleasant to drink. And I drank a drink out of it and put it into the hand of Oisin. And he drank out of it, and put it into Cáilte's hand, who also drank. And Cáilte put the horn into the hand of the churl.

8. 'And thus was that horn, with five beautiful variously wrought golden rows of studs, with every setting well-arranged in it, and between each two rows there was drink enough for two. And when we were joyous and happy, we saw a large fierce and powerful proud band coming towards us on the mountain. And the tall man asked me: "Whose is that large band yonder which I see upon the hill, making for us, O Finn?" said he. I answered his question. "That yonder," said Finn, "is a man who takes neither insult nor contempt from anyone in the world." "Whose is the other host yonder?" said the churl, "which is more than three hundred (?) men strong . . .

Rosc lethard ina chinn 7 grinne . . . a choimnertmar fo . . . . innill 'ma urt[h]imchill." "Nī *hansa*," ar Finn, "rīghfēn*id* Connacht in fer-sin .i. . . . . coimnert fri cartib, is é mīn málla re . . . . , is ē crōdha cobhs*aid* coimn*ert* re cath, daing*en* di . . . . ré dībe*irg*, is lám ris n*ach* gab*thar* cath nā comrac nā comlann . . . . nā sochaide intī atā ann-sin .i. Goll mac Morna mic Cormic mic Nem*ain* mic Morna Móir sin," ar Finn. "Maith āmh," ar in t-ath*ech*, "cia in buiden mór ūd ele is mō nā .l. læchfer mórmenm*nach* mīleta . . . . .i. co ngrāin áigh 7 irgaile fair?" "Nī *hansa*," ar Finn, "*fer* connúall 7 con . . (fo. 21*a*2) āibnes ocus co n-engnum 7 co n-āin*ius* ūair . . . . . na bu*idne*-sin .i. Mac . . . . . láimderg Lug*ach* . . .' . . . t-athech: "Cūich in buiden mōrúallach . . . . sūaichent*a* imda 7 co n-ēt*ach* gacha datho . . . . . feram*ail* finnrúadh fornertmur fírchalma . . . . . co léidmire leóm*ain* 7 co lainne ladrainn . . . . . is mó nā tricha c*ēt* fer a fairgsi?" "Nī *hansa* is muir . . . . *acht* 7 is leom*an* ar luinni 7 is bethir ar burba 7 is t[onn] rab*arta* ar rúath*ur* 7 is math[g]am*ain* ar miri 7 is cur . . . . [nach] clait*er* 7 is fer nach fuilngth*er* intan dogeib tenta catha nō chomr*aic*. Tāisech na budne-sin .i. Osgur ēchtach anglon*nach* mac Oisín sin."

9. 'Ro línadh in slīab anoir 7 aníar do chonaib ocus do dóinib fan angbaid n-irgal*ach*, fa Osgur,' ar Finn 7 dorinne Finn na rainn-si sīs ann-sin:

'Mac Morna in t-ōglach ēim ard Goll in fuilech fóeburderg,
ris nī gabann cath cródha ō maidin co híarnóna.
Mac Rethi súd ar in sl*íab* *ocus* a ſían uime aníar,
gin go ghabann air in fer nocha lughaite a ghaiscedh.
Mac Lug*ach* is nesa dáib, cidh cēt læch dech ina dháil,
ōn ló *cuir*id cenn hi cenn is gairid co fobaighend.
Atchíu Osgur ina ndiaidh, m*enic* b*en*us sē re gl*íaid*,
mō les a menma nā in muir ō rosoich co himarghoil.
Do brecsatar uili in sl*íab* it*er* anoir is aníar,
gurab lán do buidhn*ib* balcc im Osgur imón mórmac.'

Mac Morna.

10. 'Asa haithli sin tánic Goll cug*ainn*,' ar Finn, 'ocus tuc in t-ath*ech* in corn illáim Ghuill 7 atib digh as. Is annsin tāngatar

with golden . . . hair in slender plaits upon him. A . . . eye in his head and a . . ." "That man is the leader of the Connaught *fiana*," said Finn; "he is steadfast towards friends, kind and gentle towards . . ., fierce, firm, steadfast at the hour of battle, firm against reavers, his is a hand against which neither battle nor contest nor combat has ever been upheld—even Goll son of Morna, son of Cormac, son of Neman, son of Morna the Great," said Finn. "Good indeed," said the churl; "what is yonder other great company that is more than fifty high-spirited, martial warriors strong . . ., with the terror of battle and strife upon him?" "The leader of that host is a man with . . . and with delightfulness and prowess and cheerfulness . . ., even the red-handed . . . MacLughach.' Said the churl: "Whose is the proud, conspicuous, numerous host, with garments of every colour . . ., manly, fair and ruddy, masterful, truly bold, with the strength of a lion and with the fierceness of a robber, ... more than three thousand strong. . . . ?' 'Not hard to tell. He is a sea . . .," said Finn, "and a lion for fierceness and a bear for ferocity, and a springtide wave for the rush of his onset, and a bear cub for wildness, and a champion who cannot be beaten, and a man who cannot be resisted when he engages in battle or contest. The leader of that band is the valiant and mighty Oscar, son of Oisin."

9. 'From east and west the mountain was filled with hounds and men around the fierce warlike Oscar,' said Finn, and then he made these quatrains:—

'Morna's son, the ready, noble warrior, Goll the bloody, red-bladed, against him from morning till eventide no bloody battle can stand.

'Mac Rethe yonder upon the mountain and his *fian* from the west around him,—though a man should beat him (?), his valour is none the less.

'Mac Lughach is next to them; though a hundred warriors should come against him, from the moment they stand face to face 'tis a short while till he subdues them.

'I see Oscar coming behind them, often he is embroiled in strife; his spirits are higher than the sea once it has come to blows.

'They have all speckled the mountain both east and west, so that it is full of stout bands around Oscar, my great son.'

10. 'Thereupon Goll came to us,' said Finn, 'and the churl put the drinking-horn into his hand, and he drank out of it. Then came

fíana āghmura hĒrenn co cosgur gacho fianchosguir 7 co n-eredaib fordergo fíadaig forra ar commáidim gacha selga chugainn 7 ro śuidhsit na táisigh féni chuc(um) isin dumho śealga 7 tuc in t-athech lán in chuirn . . . . féne dīb, gurbá subach somenmnach uili iat . . . . soillsiugud dothiced don ló roſás dealb 7 dēnum ocus coimlí for in athech, innus co raibe cruth r . . . ālaind fair con nāch tánic ō t[h]urcbāil gréne co fuin . . . dob ferr inneall 7 ēcusc inā ē, iter mēt 7 co . . . . . ime 7 chutruma 7 áine 7 ergna 7 urlabra . . . atha faí 7 inneall airdrígh air 7 āinius óglaig ina delb. 'Maith ám, a rí[g]fēnnid,' ar Goll, 'cia in t-óglach ālaind ilcrothach anaichnid sin it fochair?' 7 adubart-sa, ar Finn: 'Nī fetar, ūair nī derna a lomsloinded dom deōin-sa.' 'Anois,' ar sē, 'mo śluinnthi duit . . .

. . . . Síth ar bFemin misi,' ar in t-ōglach

. . . . annso,' ar sé, 'doghēnum mo muinnter . . .

. . . . . amlaimsi annsin,' ar Finn, '7 na

. . . . . hĒrinn uili 7 do bí bliadain acum-sa

. . . . . 7 tuc in corn-so dam. 7 cūig immlenna

. . . . . imlinn dīp 7 cid usce línighi . . .

. . . is mid somblasta soōl[a] . . . . adub-.

. . . . in Cronánach rim-sa,' ar Finn, 'in trāth do

. . . gilla urchuir in chuirn a chēile comb . . .

. . isin bliadain sin no co fuighinn fēn ba

. . . . sgēla in cuirn 7 adhbar mo bróin-si,' ar Finn 7 adbert in lāid ann:

(fo. 21*b*1) Cūig imlenna būi hi corn Finn, maith in lám ruscuired inn;
ba hé in fer cert as gach mudh, in lám ro chumm in cūiger.
Ēgōir a ndernsat na fir gan anmuin re síth soinnim,
is messa ro hadhrad de, cách do marbad a chēile.
Crōnánach Sīthi ar Femen fúaramar sunn gan temel,
ro ba robinn dord in fir, is é tug in corn cúigir. C.

11. Asa haithli sin do chuir Finn in corn úada maille re toirrsi

the valiant *fiana* of Ireland to us with the trophy of every triumph, carrying the red burdens of the quarry upon them as they boasted of every chase, and the leaders of the *fian* sat down by me upon the hunting-mound. And the churl gave the fill of the horn to every leader of *fiana*, so that they all became joyous and happy. As the light of day came there came upon the churl a beautiful form and shapeliness and radiance, so that there was a delightful beauty upon him, so that there never came from the rise of the sun to its setting a man of better mien and aspect than he, both as to size and . . . and proportion and cheerfulness and wisdom and speech . . . . . and he had the demeanour of a high-king, and there was the charm of a youth in his figure. 'Well now, O royal leader of the *fiana*,' said Goll, 'who is that fair many-hued unknown warrior near thee?' 'And I said,' said Finn: 'I do not know, for he has not made himself fully known to me.' 'Now,' said he, 'here is my full name for you. Cronánach from the fairy-hill on Femen am I,' said the warrior, ... said Finn . . . . . all Ireland, and he stayed a year with me and gave me the horn.[1] And five hoops . . . . . and though it should be filled with water, it turns into sweet-tasting, delicious mead . . . . . when the bearer of the horn . . . his mate, so that . . . . . the story of the horn and the cause of my sorrow,' said Finn, and he made this lay:

'Five rows of studs there were in Finn's horn, it was a good hand that put them into it, he was a proper man in every way, the hand that wrought those five.

'It was wrong what the men did, not to wait for fair peace; it is worse what has followed from it, each one to slay his comrade.

'Cronánach of the fairy-hill on Femen we found here without concealment, very sweet was the song of the man, 'tis he that brought the five-studded horn.'

11. Thereupon with great sadness Finn put the horn from him and

[1] This horn is not mentioned among those enumerated as in the possession of Finn in the poem in Agallamh na Senórach, *Silva Gadelica*, I., p. 97, *The Acallam*, ed. Stokes, p. 5.

móir 7 ceilt*er* in comr*ād*-sin acu ōsin amach ocus ro tōcb*ad* muirn 7 medair na bruidhni 7 ro ēirgetar lucht fedma 7 frest*ail* 7 fritholma na br*uidne* ar chorn*aib* 7 ar chūach*aib* 7 ar chuiples*traib*, gur bo sub*ach* somenmnach uile iat 7 gur uo cōinchomráitech milisbrī- athrach forne for*úallcha* na fēne re chéle. Acht chena ro éirgetar co moch arnamárach cum selga na muici remráiti .i. torc Formāile. Et ro suidh gach lāech d'fían*aib* hĒrenn ina láthair licthi 7 ina be*irn* bæg*ail* inn-oirc[h]ill na muici 7 do sgáil*ed* da ngadhr*aib* croma ceólbinne croibglica fo fedhuib 7 fo fothrib ocus fo lásaigib 7 fo fánglentaib 7 ro chóirgetar a n-ēnaighi sealga ar fairsingib 7 ar forréitib na ferand oc*us* ro dhúiscetur in cullach congleca-sin, co facatur coin 7 cúanarta 7 cur*aid* na féni uili hí. Fa lór im*morro* d'ūathbás túaruscb*āil* na mórmuici-sin .i. sí gorm garbgáisit*ech* greitlíath gráinemail gan clūasa, gan erb*all*, gan uirghi, 7 a fíacla faidi fírgráinemla don tóeb muigh da mórc[h]end. Is annsin dolig*ed* coimrith comn*ert* con 7 curad co comthrom as gach aird da hinnsaighi. Et cuiris in bilga bésti bélderge-sin ár con 7 fer na féni ar in láthair-sin. Ōtconncatar dā mac Sgōrāin meic Sgannail .i. Dáolgus 7 Díanghus árach com*lann* uirri, tāngatur da hinnsaighi 7 ro fersat com*lann* crōdha calma curata frisin muicc 7 dothuitetar in dís-[s]in lé a crīch*aib* in c[h]om*lainn* .i. Daelgus 7 Díangus. Is annsin tānic Lug*aid* lūathlámach Sidi Cairn chuici 7 ro fer com*lann* fria 7 dothuit Lug*aid* lé i crīchaib in c[h]omraic. Tánic do*no* Fer taichim mac Uaithni Irgal*aig* 7 dorinne comrac frisin muic 7 dothuit lé hi crīch in chomlainn. Ōtchūala Finn na maithe-sin do thuitim leisin muicc, tánic fén 7 Oisín 7 Osgur 7 Cáilte 7 maithe na féne d'fēch*ain* in c[h]ull*aig* congleca sin.

12. Et ōtcon*narc* Osgur ēchtach anglonnach mac Osīn in láthair lāech 7 con 7 fer dothuit lesin muicc, ro éirig fiuch*ad* firmór fergi ocus anf*ad* ard anmīn uathbásach anaichnidh[1] a n-aign*ed* in airdmíled ar faigsin in chnámchumaigh tuc in torc allaid urb*ad*ach ar conuib 7 ar feraib 7 ar ardtāisechaib na fēne, ocus nír míadh 7 nīr maisi leisin rí[g]mílid lé hOsgur nech do díghailt a huilc uirri acht ē fē[i]n. 7 fa mór a hegla 7 a himghāb*ud* arna sl*úag*aib 7 fa mór a hadhūath

[1] anaichnigh MS.

thenceforth they ceased from that conversation. And there arose the clamour and mirth of the hostel, and the attendants and servants and waiting-men of the hostel rose to get horns and cups and drinking-vessels, so that they were all merry and joyous, and the proud bands of the *fian* were conversing affably and talking sweetly together. However they arose early on the morrow for the chase of the aforesaid swine, even the boar of Formáel. And every warrior of the *fiana* of Ireland sat down in his shooting-site and in his gap of danger making ready for the swine. And their hounds, sweet-voiced and nimble-footed, bending their heads to the ground, were unleashed throughout the woods and forests and wildernesses and sloping glens, and they set their traps of the chase on the expanse and level parts of the land. And they roused that combative boar, so that all the hounds and packs and warriors of the *fian* saw him. The description of that huge boar were enough to cause mortal terror, for he was blue-black, with rough bristles, . . . grey, horrible, without ears, without a tail, without testicles, and his teeth standing out long and horrid outside his big head. Then from every direction a neck and neck race of hounds and warriors began towards him. And that . . . of a redmouthed beast wrought a slaughter of hounds and men of the *fian* on that spot. When the two sons of Scórán son of Scandal, viz. Daelgus and Diangus, saw a chance of fighting with him, they made for him and fought fiercely, bravely and heroically against the boar, and they both fell by him in the confines of the combat, even Daelgus and Diangus. Then swift-handed Lughaidh of Sídh in Chairn came up and fought with him, and he also fell by him in the confines of the combat. Again Fer-taichim son of Uaithne Irgalach came up and fought with the boar, and he fell by him in the confines of the combat. When Finn heard that those nobles had fallen by the pig, he came himself with Oisin and Oscar and Cáilte and the nobles of the *fian* to have a look at that combative boar.

12. And when the valiant warlike Oscar son of Oisin saw the number of warriors and hounds and men that had fallen by the swine, there arose a great passion of wrath and a high, fierce, terrible, strange tempest in the soul of the noble warrior on beholding the bonebreaking which the wild, baneful boar had wrought on the hounds and men and on the noble leaders of the *fian*, nor did the royal warrior think it honourable and worthy that anyone should avenge upon it

7 a hurgráin ar Osgur. Acht cena nīr fēt a himgabā*il* arna faigsin 7 ō thānic Osgur co lāthair, do lig*ed* dorusbél mór dó chum na bésti béldergi-sin 7 is amlaid ro (fo. 21b 2) búi sí annsin, ina bethir bodhb[d]a 7 ina harracht aidhgill 7 ina hurdloch*t*an āigh 7 urba*da* 7 fa samalta ré cubur rī[g]esa romóir gach cuip cróderg cróchbuidhe cub*uir* tig*ed* tar a gin 7 tar a cráesaib cogantacha acarb*a* ag dranntad a détbaig i n-agaid in airdmíled 7 cuiris frāech a dromo a n-airde, innus co n-anfad ubull fortamail fíad*ain* for gach gūaire garb gráinemail dī. Ocus bertaighis Osgur in tsleg athgēr āghmur ina lāim 7 tug urchor indilldírech ar in muic ocus nīrb imroll urc*hair* sin 7 cuiris in tsleig a n-urbrollach a hochta innte 7 do bo samalto co treghdfad in tsleg trithi hī 7 sginnis in tsleg a n-airdi esti amail dodechad do charruic nō do chongna. Beris Osgur cēim 'na coinni 7 tuc bēim brāthamail don chlaidim cuci gur bris in claidim fana hormna urri. Beris in mucc cēim d'innsaige Osguir 7 brisiss Osgur in sgiath fuirri 7 gabuis greim dá ghairbfinnfad 7 ro éirigh in muc ar a huathneduib dímóra derid do gerrad in rí[g]mīled ar n-úachtar. Sínis Osgur a dhá dhóid rígda romóra mílita tar in muic ar n-īchtar 7 tuc cor dísgir denmnetach dī, gur chuir frāech a droma fri talmain, 7 tuc a glūn ar n-īchtur inte 7 a dá ghlaicc ré a bél 7 ré a carpat ar n-úachtur, conidh amlaid sin ro tharrngetur forni feróglach na féni a habach 7 a hinathar trithi síar sechtair. Conidh amlaid sin dotuit in mórmuc-sin le hOsgur hi crīch in c[h]omlainn 7 roclaidedh lechta 7 ferta na fēnnidh 7 na ferōglach ro marbad lesin muic annsin.

13. Tánic Finn ōsna fertaib sin 7 atbert in láidh ann:

'Lecht Fir thaichim sunn amne dorat brón for sochaide,
ba sgēl adhbal, fa gním guirt, arna marbad don mórmuic.

In muc ro marb Fer taichim ro marb mórān dar maithib,
nogo torchair lé hOsgur, fá selg lācich, fa lúathchosgur.

Ro marb trīar eile dar slúag in torc rúanata rorūad:
Dáelgus, Díangus, Lugaid balc, ēirgid is claidid a lecht!

Atrochair le hOsgur ard in torc rūanata rogharg,
dó nochur dam cóir ná cert co fuil ōs mōin a tiughlecht.' Lecht.

the evil it had done except himself. Great was the fear and fright caused by the boar upon the hosts, and great was the dread and horror upon Oscar. However, he could not avoid it once he had beheld it. And when Oscar had come on to the spot, a wide passage was made for him towards that red-mouthed beast, which was like a furious bear and a phantom of destruction and a conglomeration of battle and ruin. And like unto the foam of a mighty waterfall was each blood-red, saffron-yellow flake of foam that came over its mouth and over its rough, grinding jaws as it was gnashing its teeth at the noble warrior. And it raised the mane of its back on high, so that a plump, wild apple would have stuck on each of its rough horrid bristles. And Oscar brandished the sharp, mettlesome battle-spear in his hand and made a straight cast at the pig, and that was not a shot that missed its aim,—and he sent the spear into the very front of its chest so that it looked as though the spear would pierce it through and through; but the spear glanced off it up into the air as though it had struck a rock or horn. Oscar strode up to it and dealt it a furious blow with his sword, so that the sword broke upon its shoulder. The pig advanced towards Oscar, and Oscar broke his shield upon it and took hold of its rough mane. And the pig rose upon its huge hind-legs to crush the kingly warrior from above. Oscar stretched his mighty stout arms across the pig from below and gave it a fierce sudden twist, so that he brought the mane of its back to the ground. He thrust his knee into it below, his hands seizing its jaw and palate above, so that in that manner the bands of warriors of the *fian* pulled its entrails and bowels out behind. So thus fell that huge swine by Oscar in the confines of the combat. And the graves and tombs of the *fian*-chiefs and common warriors who had been killed by the pig were dug there.

13. Finn came and stood above those graves and uttered the lay:

'Here now is the grave of Fer-taichim who dealt sorrow to many,—it was a prodigious story, it was a bitter deed—having been killed by the great boar.

'The boar that killed Fer-taichim killed many of our nobles until it fell by Oscar,—it was the chase of a hero, it was speedy triumph.

'He had killed three others of our host, the mighty strong boar, Daelgus, Diangus, stout Lughaidh,—arise and dig their graves!

'It has fallen by noble Oscar, the mighty fierce boar, he granted it neither fairplay nor right, so that its last resting-place is on the moor.'

14. Do smúain Finn comairle annsin .i. Ére d'fágbāil ar egla na fáistine dorinne in Crónánach dō; ūair dogab uaman 7 imegla é fa ár do thabairt ar in féin nō fá bás d'fagbāil dó féin isin bliadain-sin, 7 is í comairli ro chinn, Ēri d'fāgbāil ocus dul tar muir soir do c[h]aithim a fianaighechta[1] (ūair nīr lugha a rīghi thoir nā abus), guma[d] síaiti ūadha cend na bliadna-sin 7 na fástine dorinnedh dó. 7 ro innis [s]im in comairli-sin d'Oéngus in Brogha 7 do maithib a muintire ocus don fēin uili fa dul tar muir soir 7 atbert in lāeid:

'Tīagam tar muir medraig moill, a fían Finn a Teamraig truimm,
mina faghar cabair ndaith sgarfat re Ērinn mbithmaith.

Do Lúaighni atā i ndān in tres, nī gnīm ūailli acht adhbur fras,
mina fagur cabair ndeis sgarfat rem fēin fēin abuss.

Ticfa Ōengus mac in Óg dar cabair ar chairdes ngg,
dola don Brugh is é is réidh re ndul ar in turus téig.' Tíagam.

15. Docúatar maithi na fēne íarsin a n-ēnc[h]omairli 7 is í (fo. 22a1) comairli ro cinnedh acu gan Finn do ligen tar muir in bliadain-sin. 'Ní racha-si tar muir, a rí[g]fēnnid!' ar síat, 'ūair da ceilter selg 7 fíanchosgur hĒrenn oruinni atám////[2] tni do thāisechaib fēni 7 d'feruib feruinn agat-sa annso lín do c[h]ongbāla go cend bliadna ocus dobēram fleid núad gach n-oidchi duit no co cuirem in bliadhain-si thoruind.' 7 do cinnedh in comairli-sin leó 7 do sgáiletar in fían da ndúintib 7 da mbailtib fén d'ullmugud ar cinn Finn, innus co fuigbed sé fleid a tigh gach duine dīb. 7 is dó ránic Finn do frestul 7 do frithalem in oidhchi-sin .i. Fer tái mac Uáithne Irgalaig rí[g]fénnid Conuilli Murt[h]emne 7 Luaighne Temrach. 7 is í fa ben d'Fer thái .i. Iuchna Arómór ingen Ghuill meic Morna 7 is amlaid robúi Fer tái 7 mac sūaichnid sainemail aci co ngaisced 7 co ngáis 7 co nglici 7 fa hí Iuchna māthair in mic-sin 7 Fer lí a ainm. Ba cosmail immorro rena senathair é .i. ré Goll ar mét 7 ar maisi 7 ar mīletacht, ar neim 7 ar nert 7 ar nidhachus, ar enech 7 ar

[1] fianoidhechta MS. [2] erasure in MS., read *atámait-ni*.

14. Thereupon Finn meditated upon a decision, even to leave Ireland for fear of the prophecy which the Cronánach had made to him; for dread and great fear had seized him that the *fian* would be slaughtered and he himself meet with death that year. And this is the decision which he took, to leave Ireland and to go across the sea eastward, there to spend his *fian*-ship (for his kingship was no less in the east than here), so that the issue of that year and of the prophecy which had been made of him might be the further off. And he communicated that decision about going eastward across the sea to Aengus of the Brugh and to the nobles of his people and to all the *fian*, and uttered the lay:

'Let us go across the murmuring, placid sea, oh *fian* of Finn from great Tara; unless I find speedy help I shall part from ever-fair Ireland.

'To the Luaighne the battle is destined, not a deed of wailing, but a cause of tears[1]; unless I find proper help I shall part from my own *fian* here.

'Aengus mac in Óg will come to our help for the sake of . . . gossipred; it is easy to go to the Brugh before going on the . . . . journey.'

15. Then the nobles of the *fian* went to hold counsel, and they came to the decision not to let Finn across the sea that year. 'Thou shalt not go across the sea, O royal leader of the *fian*,' said they, 'for if chase and spoil fail us in Ireland, there are enough of us here, leaders of the *fian*, and landowners, to support you to the end of the year; and we shall make a fresh feast for you every night until the year is ended.' And upon this decision they fixed, and the *fian* dispersed to their own strongholds and homesteads to prepare for Finn, so that he might find a banquet in the house of every man of them. And he to whom it fell to attend and serve Finn on that night was Fer-tái son of Uaithne Irgalach, the *fian*-chief of Conaille Murthemne and the Luaighne of Tara. And the wife of Fer-tái was Iuchna Ardhmór daughter of Goll, son of Morna; and he had a notable distinguished son, valorous, wise, and clever, whose mother was Iuchna, and who was called Fer-lí. He resembled his grandfather Goll in size and stateliness and soldiership, in virulence and strength

[1] Literally, 'showers.'

engnum 7 ar árrachtus, ar lúth 7 ar lámach 7 ar línmairecht, ar chrúas, ar chalmacht, ar churatacht, ar mire 7 ar merdánacht, ar móraicned, ar deilb, ar détlacht, ar dāsachtaighi.

16. Ocus ōtchonnairc Fer lí begān sl*úaig* 7 sochaide a foch*air* Finn ro smúain feall 7 meabal 7 mitháem do dénum air cona muintir, ūair ní raibi a farrad Finn annsin da muintir acht Cétach Cithach mac rígh Loch*lann* 7 Lægaire Lúathbémendach mac Duib mic Ṡálmóir m*ac* rí[g] Fer Fánnall 7 cúig c*ēt*[1] læch hi foch*air* gach duine díb 7 isin aimsir-sin tāngatar tar muir hi g[c]end Finn 7 tuc Finn leis íat in oidchi-sin mar onóir dóip 7 ro ḟáguib a c[h]lannmaicne fé[i]n 7 a gnáthmuintir uile acht Aedh Baillderg mac Foél*áin* mic Finn 7 na trí *Coin* a Moenmuigh 7 cúic cēt læch aili a farrad in chethrair-sin, conid cúic *cēt dēc* uile ro būi Finn ann-sin. 7 ro lig Fer lí comairli in ḟill re hĒmer nGlúnglas mac Aedha mic Gar*aid* mic Morna. 'Is comairli chub*aid* choimnert in comairle-sin,' ar Émer, 'ūair is bidhb*a* bun*aid* dūinn é Finn, ūair do t*uit* Goll Mór mac Morna leis 7 clanna Morna uile 7 ar n-aithri 7 ar senaithri.'

17. Ocus ro crīchn*aigsit* Finn cona muintir do marbad a fill. 7 is iat dorinni in comarli-sin .i. Fer lí mac Fir tái 7 Ēmer Glūnglas mac Aeda mic Gar*aid* 7 cúic mic Uirgrenn do Lúaignib Midhi 7 na trī Taiblennaigh a fosadlār Fernmaighi 7 ro molatar sin uili Finn cona muintir do marbad ocus ro chóirgetar 7 ro cumatar in feall .i. in begān sl*ūaig* do bī ag Finn do sgáil*ed* 7 do *con*nmāil, ūair nī raibi acht cūic cēt dēc a n-ingn*āis* con 7 gilla a farrad Finn 7 is í celg ro cumadh acu: dæine dísgiri derglomnachta do thecht co dūn*ad* Fir thái mic Uaithni Irgalaig co hairm hi raibi Finn hi coin*n*m*edh* a m*uintire*, ocus comad ed*h* aderdáis airgne 7 esbada do dēnum do muintir Finn dar muint*ir* Fir thāi 7 gumad é in sgél sin bud tosach cogair 7 coimērgi cum Finn do marbad.

18. Et ar gcuinnmedh a muintire d'Finn ro cóirg*ed* bruidin brotla bélfairsing dó a ndúnadh Fir thāi mic Uaithni Irgalaig go n-édaighib ēxamla 7 co n-ūrlúachair 7 do faidlig*ed* more mórthinedh a fiadnaise

[1] added underneath.

and championship, in liberality and prowess and might, in vigour and dexterity and abundance, in hardness and boldness, in knightliness, recklessness, and intrepidity, in magnanimity, in beauty of form, in valour and dauntlessness.

16. Now, when Fer-lí saw the small number of the host that Finn had with him, he meditated to practice treachery and deceit and guile upon him with his people; for there were of his people with him only Cédach Ciothach, the son of the King of Norway, and Laeghaire of the swift blows, son of Dubh, son of Sálmór, son of the King of the Men of Fánnall, and five hundred warriors with each of them. They had just come across the sea to meet Finn, who had taken them with him that night as an honour to them, having left behind all his own clan and his usual company, except Aed of the red limbs, son of Faelan, son of Finn, and the three Cú's from Moinmoy and five hundred other warriors, together with those four, so that the whole company of Finn numbered five thousand. And Fer-lí communicated his treacherous design to Émer Glúnglas, son of Aedh, son of Garadh, son of Morna. 'That is a fitting, forcible design,' said Emer; 'for Finn is our hereditary enemy, since Goll the Great, son of Morna, has fallen by him and all the Clan Morna and our fathers and grandfathers.'

17. And they determined to slay Finn, with his people, by treachery. And those who came to that decision were Fer-lí, son of Fer-tái, and Émer Glúnglas son of Aedh, son of Garadh, and the five sons of Urgriu of the Luaighne of Meath and the three Táiblennachs from the stable plain of Farney. And these all vowed to slay Finn with his people, and thus they arranged and shaped the treachery, viz., to disperse and to hold up the small company that was with Finn; for there were with him only five thousand, not counting the hounds and gillies. And this is the device they shaped: that fierce, stark-naked men should come to the stronghold of Fer-tái to where Finn was billeting his people, and that they should say that slaughter and loss were being inflicted by Finn's people on those of Fer-tái, so that that story might be the beginning of conspiracy and of a general onslaught to kill Finn.

18. When Finn had billeted his people a splendid wide-doored hostel was arranged for him in the stronghold of Fer-tái, with choice drapery and fresh rushes, and a great pile of fire was kindled before

Finn 7 Fir t[h]āi 7 in begáin (fo. 22*a*2) mac rīgh 7 roflatha ro búi ina fochair. Intan do suid sīs Finn cona muintir cum fledi do chaithem, doconncatur lucht in chogair 7 in fill cuco isin mbruidhin co n-*ēteth* 7 co n-armuib ocus co sgíathuib sgemelbrectha ar druim gacha trénfir díb. Ōtconnaire Finn gné fola finghaili arna feraib-sin tuc aithne orra 7 nírléige assin urgnam do dēnam, acht robūi a comair fritholma na *foir*ne firnāmat tānic don bruidhin cugi. 7 is amlaid ro būi Finn 7 cotún clíabfairsing uimi ina rabatar secht ciarlēnti fichet ciartha clārtha comdlúta a n-imdítean a chuirp re congal*a* ocus re comthógb*āil* chatha.

19. Fa gairit asa haithli sin ro bātar ann intan dochūalatar na hirfuágarta arda angb*aide* 7 dæine dísgire derglomnachta ac sestān 7 ag sírēgheam dochum in dúnaid airm hi rabatar na maithi-sin. 7 is ed adubratar, argain 7 innrad do dēnum don fein ocus do muintir Finn ar búar 7 ar brughadhuib in tíri. 'Ní maith linne na lúathchrecha-sin,' ar Fer lí. 'Budh maith im*morro*,' ar Finn, 'úair leiseóchar co dingb*āl*a na díghbāla,' ar sé, 'ūair dobért*ar* dā boin 'sa mboin 7 dā cháirigh 'sa gcāeir*ig* díb-si ann sin,' ar Finn. 'Nī huime sin tánag*ais*,' ar Fer lí, 'acht dár marb*ad*-ne mar do marb*ais* ar n-aithri 7 ar senaithri romuind.' Et is amlaid adub*ert* sin 7 ro insaig[1] Finn co denmnetach dásachtach dícheill*idi*, 7 nírb innsaige gan airaegadh in innsaige-sin, úair do fregradh sin ac Finn cona muintir co brígach bághach borrfadhach 7 ro cuir*ed* in imresain aturra co ferrda feramail fráechaigméil ar lármedón na bruidhni 7 ro búi Fer tái ag ed*rac*āin 7 ag imdítean Finn. Acht chena nír fuilget*ar* na hánr*aid* a chéili d'faicsin co torchratar trī *nōen*muir do deglæchaib aturra ar lár na bruidhne.

20. Is annsin do chūal*a* Iuchna Ardmór ingen Ghuill mic Mor*na* sestān na sochaide 7 lētgairi na læchraide ac letrad a chéile 7 tánic dochum na bruidni 7 ben*ais* a br*ic*ín da baithis 7 sgáilis a folt finnbuidhe 7 nochtais a cíche 7 is ed adubert: 'A m*ic*,' ar sī, 'is meth enich 7 is maslugud míl*ed* 7 is imchāinedh re in*n* isin 7 is díscail*ed* conáich feall ar in flaithfēinnidh Finn, ocus fāgaib co lúath in bruidin anoiss, a m*ic*,' ar sī. Ocus ro fāg*aib* Fer lí in bruidhean dá māthair. Ocus adubert ac dul immach: 'Do chath rim-si duit amār*ach*, a Finn,' ar sé. 'Frecērt*har* duit-si in cath-sin, a Fer lí,' ar

[1] insaid MS.

Finn and Fer-tái and the few sons of kings and princes that were with them. When Finn had sat down with his people to enjoy the feast, they saw the conspirators and traitors coming towards them into the hostel equipped and armed with edge-speckled shields on the back of each champion. When Finn saw the bloody aspect of assassins upon those men he knew what they were, and did not allow the entertainment to proceed, but kept watching the crew of veritable enemies that had come into the hostel to him. And Finn was arrayed thus: he had a broad-chested, wadded corslet about him, in which were twenty-seven board-like, compact, waxed shirts protecting his body against fights and the upraising of battle.

19. They were there but a short while after that when they heard a loud angry hue and cry, and fierce, stark-naked men clamouring and vociferating coming towards the stronghold where those nobles were. And this is what they said that the *fían* and Finn's people were slaughtering and attacking the cows and the farmers of the land. 'We do not like those sudden raids,' said Fer-lí. 'It shall be well, however,' said Finn; 'for any damage shall be suitably made good,' said he, 'for two cows shall be given for each single cow and two sheep for one.' '"Tis not for that purpose thou hast come,' said Fer-lí, 'but to slay us as thou hast slain our fathers and our grandfathers before us.' And as he said that he attacked Finn suddenly, furiously, like one out of his senses. But that was not an attack coming unawares; for Finn and his people responded to it stoutly, martially, wrathfully, and the skirmish was fought between them manfully, bravely, fiercely, upon the central floor of the hostel. And Fer-tái was intervening and was protecting Finn. However, the champions did not deign to look at each other until thrice nine brave warriors had fallen between them upon the floor of the hostel.

20. 'Tis then Iuchna Ardmhór, daughter of Goll son of Morna, heard the turmoil of the multitude and the fierce shouts of the warriors as they were hacking each other, and she came to the hostel, tore her checkered coif from her head, loosed her fair yellow hair, bared her breasts, and said: 'My son,' said she, 'it is ruin of honour and disgrace to a soldier and a reproach to tell and dispelling of luck to betray the princely Finn of the *fiana*; and now quickly leave the hostel, my son,' said she. And Fer-lí left the hostel to his mother. And as he went forth he said: 'I announce battle to thee to-morrow,

Finn, 'oir nī bud cás oruinni,' ar Finn, 'damad coimlín sinn cath da thabairt duit-si.' Et do frithoil*ed* Finn in oidhchi-sin gur ba sāithech sonairt somenmnach é cona fēin 7 adub*ert* Finn: 'Is olc m'onóir-si do b*eith* Fir lí dam-sa inocht 7 ní damann sé cert dam,' ar Finn, 'ocus ticfa aimser ann,' ar sé, '7 nī dēma nech cert dá chéile,' 7 dorinne in láid ann:

'A Ḟir lí, gid fada gairit co tí,
an tan fa ticfa in fer fēig nī dingna réir do lethēid.

(fo. 22*b*1)

Biaidh ass hi comaimsir na ṅGall ṅglas,
is ní fuighi Ēre úaim acht maidm thúaidh *ocus* maidm thess.

Ticfa am hi gcuirfith*er* ár na ṅGall,
gid fada gairid go tí, is borb sráinfius cách a clann.

Is mē Finn, maith bar linn is ibidh[1] digh,
ō na*ch* damaidh[2] cert nā cóir biaidh do lecht ōs Bōinn, a Ḟir.' A fir.

21. A haithle na láidhi-sin adub*ert* Finn: 'A óga,' ar sé, 'is ec*al* lium na briathra-sa adeir Fer lí rinn hi gcuimnech*ad* a fala dúinn. Ocus is fír ám,' ar sé, 'go facusa Gar*ad* mac Morna a cath Chrunnmóna ag sl*aidi* na féne co nār fuilngeta*r* hi n-urchomuir a aighthe re fiuchad fergi in churadh 7 atconnarc-sa ámh fós' ar Finn 'in t-airsidh[3] hi tenta '*con* féin,' 7 adub*ert* in láidh ann:

'Iuchna Ardmór ingen Ghuill, máthair Fir lí, seng a ghlacc,
sochaide sa ceand do c*rom*, re Goll is cosmuil in mac.

Fer lí mac Ḟir t[h]ái gan lọcht, Éimer mór com*lann* ro chlecht,
tuitfit mo dá dalta lium, dam dar lium ní damhuit ceartt.

Atconnarc Gar*ad* co moch, do íbadh loch gema sruth,
in lá atbath risin féin adub*ert* fēin ach is uch. Iuchna.

Do bí Goll ag scoltadh sc*iath*, ag sin in tríath do dáil fuil,
hi cath Crundmóna nār cerb a lám is a f*erg* rusfiuch.' I.

22. Asa haithli sin tánic Fer tái mac Uáithne Irgalaig isin tech hi raibi Finn 7 ro ṡuid ar lethláim Finn 7 ro fer fáilti ris 7 ro furáil

[1] ibigh MS. [2] damaigh MS. [3] airsigh MS.

Finn,' said he. 'That battle will be responded to,' said Finn; 'for we should be in no strait, if we were an equal number to give battle to thee.' And that night Finn was served until he was satiated, invigorated, and cheerful, both he and his *fian*. And Finn said: 'It ill suits my honour that Fer-lí should importune me to-night nor grant me fair play. A time will come,' said he, 'when no one will grant fair play to another,' and then he made this lay:

'O Fer-lí, whether it will be long or short till it come, the time when the keen man will come he will not submit to the like of thee.

'He will be put down in the time of the blue-weaponed foreigners, nor will he get Ireland from me, but a rout in the north and a rout in the south.

'The time will come when the foreigners will be slaughtered. Whether it be long or short till it come, it is senseless for anyone to overthrow his children.

'I am Finn; good is your ale: so drink a drink! since thou dost not grant justice or fair play, thy grave will be on the Boyne, O man.'

21. When he had finished that song Finn said: 'Warriors,' said he, 'I fear the words which Fer-lí speaks to us remembering his feud against us. And it is true indeed,' said he, 'that I have seen Garadh son of Morna in the battle of Cruinnmóin cutting down the *fian* so that they did not dare to face him for the boiling wrath of the champion. And indeed I have also seen the veteran in sore plight by the *fian*,' said Finn, and then he spoke the lay:

'Iuchna Ardmhór daughter of Goll, mother of Fer-lí of slender hand; many are they whose head he has bowed; the son resembles Goll.

'Fer-lí son of Fer-tái without fault, Émer who is accustomed to many a fight, my two foster-sons will fall by me; to me they grant no justice, meseems.

'I saw Garadh early; he would drain a lake though it were a river; on the day that he fell by the *fian* 'twas he who cried ah! and woe!

'Goll was splitting shields; there was the lord that dealt out blood! in the battle of Cruinnmóin . . . his hand and his wrath seethed.'

22. Thereupon Fer-tái, son of Uaithne Irgalach, came into the house where Finn was and sat down by Finn's side and bade him

ól 7 āibnis air 7 adubert Fer tāi: 'Is uime ro fúagrad in cath-so ort amārach, a rī[g]fēinnidh,[1] gan slúag nā sochaide maróen rit.' 'Nī hamlaid sin idir atú-sa,' ar Finn. 'Uáir atā mac rí[g] fer Fánnall im fochuir-si .i. Láegaire lūathbéimendach ocus dingēbaid trí cēt lāech lasamuin lángēr isin cath-sa dīm. Et atā Cétach Cithach mac rí[g] Lochlann im farrad tánic do díghuil a derbrāithrech orum-sa 7 ar in bféin 7 ōtconnairec coin 7 fir na féne tug grād dímór dóib 7 ro léig fo lár a foghuil 7 a dībeirg 7 ro an acum-sa 7 dingébaid tri cēt cuingid catharmach isin cath-sa dím-sa, a Fir taí,' bar Finn. 'Ocus is imda lāech loinnghnímach lānchalma ō soin himach maróen rim-sa is tnūthach re troit 7 is athlum i n-imguin 7 is ēsgaid a n-eangnam 7 is físhda re forrán,' 7 isbert in láid ann:

'Mac Duib mic Sálmóir na lend, Lægairi Lúath na mbéimend,
mairfid trī cēt fer ngaili, nī budh brég in fáistini.

Atā mac rī[g] Lochlann ann, Cétach [Cithach] na comlann,
tuitfit leis trī cēt don tslúagh curad cródha claidhemrúad.

Mairg bías ar cind na féne da ngaba cách coimérge,
ar ní obuid in cath crūaidh, is mer érgit re hænūair.

Da tigit Lúaighne 'sa cath isin maidin-si himārach,
illos scīath is land is glacc budh himda māthair gan mac.' Mac.

23. Do bātar in oidhchi-sin ag imrád in chatha 7 na hirgaile urrdálta arnamárach. Ro éirigh Finn isin maidin mochsoluis 7 ro cuir techta a n-agaid a muintire 7 do fregradar co brígach bághach borrfadhach hé (fo. 22b2) as gach aird, ocus dochúaid Finn 7 a chúig cēt dég læch co hĀth mBrea for Bōuinn budhes 7 ro chóirigh Finn a chúig cét dēg læch ar ur in átha co mbróin sciath 7 claidem[2] ocus cathbarr.

24. Sgēla Fir thái mic Uaithne Irgalaig 7 Fir lí mic Fir thái, ro thinóiletar a slūag ocus a sochaidi 7 tāngadar ina ndírmadhuib data dímóra deghslúaigh co hæninat, go rabatar deich cēt ar fichit cēt curad catharmach 7 tāngatar co Āth mBrea don réim-sin. Et

[1] rifeinnigh MS. [2] claidim MS.

welcome and pressed drink and merriment upon him and said: 'Tis for this this battle has been proclaimed against thee to-morrow, O royal *fian*-chief, because thou art without a host or multitude.' 'I am by no means in that condition,' said Finn. 'For the son of the King of the Men of Fánnall is by my side, even Laeghaire of the swift blows, and he will keep off three hundred warriors from me in this battle. And Cédach Ciothach, son of the King of Norway, is with me, who came to avenge his brothers upon me and the *fian*; and when he had seen the hounds and the men of *fian* he fell greatly in love with them and abandoned his intent of plunder and spoliation and stayed with me. And he will keep off three hundred battle-armed warriors from me in the battle, O Fer-tái,' said Finn. 'And there are many other full-bold warriors of fierce deeds by my side who are eager for fight and agile in conflict and of unwearied powers and furious in the onset'; and then he spoke the lay:

'Mac Duibh, son of Sálmór of the cloaks, Laeghaire of the swift blows, they will slay three hundred champions, the prophecy shall not be falsified.

'There is here the son of Norway's King, Cédach Ciothach of the combats; by him three hundred of the host shall fall, of warriors fierce and sword-red.

'Woe to him who will oppose the *fian* when all shall rise for combat! For they do not refuse hard battle, reckless they rise all at once.

'When the Luaighne come to battle to-morrow in the morning, by dint of shields and blades and hands many a mother will be without a son.'

23. That night they were discussing the appointed battle and conflict of the morrow. In the early-bright morning Finn arose and sent messengers for his people who responded stoutly, bravely, and proudly from all directions; and Finn with his five-thousand warriors went to Áth Brea on the southern Boyne, and arrayed them in battle-order upon the bottom of the ford in a mass of shields and swords and helmets.

24. As to Fer-tái son of Uaithne Irgalach, and Fer-lí son of Fer-tái, they gathered their host and multitude, and they came in their fine, huge, brave companies to one place, so that they were three-thousand battle-armed warriors. And they came to Ath Brea. And

ōtconncatar in becān slūaig ar ur in ātha don táeb ali, roches a menma forru. 7 is í comairli dorónsat: ro ghabsat a n-err*edha* catha 7 com*lainn* umpu 7 dochúatar a n-ētromuib a n-étach 7 a n-imthromaib a n-arm. 7 is íat-so na húaisli ro cóirgedh a tús in chatha-sin na coloman .i. Fer tái mac Uaithne Irgalaig ocus Fer lí mac Fir t[h]ái 7 Emer Glúnglas mac Aedha mic Gar*aid* mic Morna ocus cúig mic Uirgrenn do hsentúathaib Temrach ocus na trī Táiplendaigh a fosadhlár Fernmuighi ocus Lúaighne Temrach arcena.

25. Ōtconnairc im*morro* in flaithfēinnid[1] ferdo fortamail fedmlāidir frāechaicméil fichinnsaigt[h]ech 7 in cuiṅgid comlon*nach* crúaidh conglec*ach* .i. mac cathlínmar Cumaill in cipi catha sin ag a chōrugud ina agaid: 'Dar lim,' ar sé, 'is dárírib atáit na fir út ag tabairt catha dúin. Ocus a Birgad banechl*ach*,' ar Finn, 'ēirig 7 aicill in lucht úd 7 tairg comadha dóib.' 'Ca com*ada* sin ón?' ar Birgad. 'Nī hansa,' ar Finn, 'is misi tug dóib a conāch 7 a crīch ocus a coṅgbāil hi ferund 7 doberim a cutruma 7 a coméid ali dóib 7 gan techt im agaid don chur-sa. 7 māidh orra gurab daltadha dam-sa iat,' ar Finn.

26. Tānic tra Birgat banechlach co hairm i rabatar na maithi-siu 7 ro chan sin riu. 'Is cōir na comadha do gab*āil*,' ar Fer tái, 'uair is mór do grādh-sa ag Finn, a Fir lí,' ar sé. 'Oir is tú indara fer dēg do bīdh ina luiṅg ac Finn ocus do bīdh tosach coguir 7 comairle agot ūadh 7 deredh comhóil, 7 is dalta dó tú,' ar sé. 'Doberim dom brēthir ris,' ar Fer lí, 'nach dingnum comól cairdeamail choidhchi misi 7 Find,' ar sé, '7 fós nāch rach ina luing co bráth.' 'Is olc in comairli-sin,' ar Fer tái, 'ūair is flaith úasal fortamail forglidi Finn,' ar sé, 'oir is ágmar urlam innsaigthech hē cona fēin. Ocus do connac-sa Finn' ar sé, 'a cathuib 7 a comlannuib 7 ní faca a macsamla rīam ar dēne, ar tairp*ige*, ar dechrad, ar chrúas, ar chalmacht, ar luinne, ar laechdacht ag slaidhe slúag 7 sochaide' 7 atbert in lāidh and:

[1] flaithfeinnig MS.

when they saw the small number on the other side upon the bottom of the ford, they grumbled at it. And this is the counsel they took: they took their dresses of battle and combat around them and advanced in their light dresses and in their ponderous armature. And these are the nobles who were put in the front of that battalion of the 'pillars,' viz. Fer-tái son of Uaithne Irgalach, and Fer-lí, son of Fer-tái, and Émer Glúnglas son of Aedh, son of Garadh, son of Morna, and the five sons of Urgriu of the ancient tribes of Tara, and the three Táiblennach's from the stable plain of Farney, and the Luaighne of Tara as well.

25. Now when the manful, puissant, powerful, terrible, fierce-battling prince of the *fiana*, and the valorous, fierce, combative hero, even Cumhall's son of many battalions beheld that battle-phalanx arrayed against him, 'Methinks,' he said, 'those men are giving us battle in earnest. And O my messenger Birgad,' said Finn, 'go and speak to those people and offer them terms.' 'What terms?' said Birgad. 'I will tell you,' said Finn. ''Tis I who gave them their wealth and territory and their landed estates, and I will give them as much again if they will not at this time come against me. And remind them[1] that they are foster-sons of mine,' said Finn.

26. Then Birgad the female messenger came to where those nobles were and told them that. 'It is just to accept the terms,' said Fer-tái, 'for Finn loves thee dearly, Fer-lí,' said he. 'For thou wast one of the twelve men that used to be with Finn in his house; and thou always hadst the first of counsel from him and the last of drink. And thou art a foster-son of his,' said he. 'I pledge my word,' said Fer-lí, 'that I and Finn shall never again drink together in friendship, nor will I ever enter his house again.' 'That is ill advice,' said Fer-tái, 'because Finn is a noble, puissant, excellent prince,' said he; 'for he with his *fian* is valiant and ready for fight and attack. And I have seen Finn in battles and combats, and I never saw his equal for swiftness, for vigour, for fury, for hardiness, for boldness, for fierceness, for heroism in slaying hosts and multitudes'; and then he spoke the lay:

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[1] Literally, 'boast to them.'

'Mairg dobēradh cath don fēin da mb*et* ar cēill garb a ṅgluind,
dob ferr anad ag Finn féin ocus dul da rē[i]r 'na luing.'

'Nocha racha mé go Finn, b*et* ar a chinn 'sa cath cruinn,
is nī anab ga*n* é fēin, nocho rach da rē[i]r 'na luing.'

'Maith do slaidhi catha c*irb*, Finn lám a sráinti in gach aird,
gach nech tachrus ré rī[g] rēil dar lim is dó fēin a mairg.' M.
(fo. 23*a*1).

27. 'Is olcc in chomuirli sin,' ar Fer tái, 'cath do tabairt d'Finn, ar a úaisli 7 ar a aingidhecht 7 ar a ághmure.' 'Ac id*ir* ón,' ar Fer lí, 'ní gébam-ne ní ar talmain acht cath úad. Ar ní frecéra in díbinn senláich úd sinni,' ar sé, 'ar lámach *nō* ar læchdacht ré comt[h]ógb*āil* catha.' Ocus ro impáidh in echlach roimpi arís 7 ro frithāil na briathra-sin d'Finn. 'Doberim dom brēthir ris,' ar Finn, 'dá tístaís ar sochraiti chugainn, n*ach* bíadh úainde na comadha-sin dóib. Ērig-si aridhisi, a echlach,' ar Finn, 'ocus tairg tuill*ed* comadh dóib.' 'Ca tuill*ed* sin ón?' ar in echlach. 'Breth bretheman 7 a mbreth féin fōs dōib air sin anúas.'

28. Ocus tánic in echlach aridhisi 7 targ*aid* na comadha-sin. 'Is cóir na comadha do gab*āil*,' ar Fer tái, '7 gach nech tug cath go hēgóir ríam d'Finn, is roim Finn ro meab*aid* orra' 7 isbert Fer tái láidh air sin:

'Doconnarc-sa Finn ag slaidhe slúagh ar ar bris báigh,
tachur ris is com*lann* cláen, mairg thét 'na dáil!

Ní racha Finn gan tachur ris gidh garb a ghlonn,
go raibi mur is mían lem gan chíall, gan chonn.

Betid na fir ó Móenmuigh ann go fóebr*aib* uill,
ō bar tac*hur*, a ṁan n*ach* timm, b*et* daim gan cuing.' Do.

'Is mithig dam-sa imt[h]echt budesta,' ar in echlach. 'Ní gabthar crodh nā coma ele úaib acht cath,' ar Émer Glúnglas mac Aedha mic Gar*aid* 7 ar mic Uirgrend mic Lúidhech Cuirr 7 ar Lúaighni Temrach.

29. Tánic in echlach roimpi 7 ro innis scéla derba d'Finn '7 aderuit is senóir dībl*idi* dolámaigh thusa, a Finn,' ar in echlach.

'Woe to him who would give battle to the *fian* if he were in his senses,—their deeds are fierce. It were better to stay by Finn himself and to go submissive into his house.'

[Fer-lí:] 'I shall not go to Finn, I shall meet him in the round of battle, and I shall not stay by him, nor shall I go submissive into his house.'

[Fer-tái:] 'Finn is good at cutting down the . . . battle; his is the vanquishing hand in every direction; whoever fights with the brilliant King, it is woe to himself, it seems to me.'

27. 'That is ill advice,' said Fer-tái, 'to give battle to Finn, on account of his nobility and fierceness and valour.' 'Not so at all,' said Fer-lí, 'we shall accept nothing from him but battle. For yon decrepit old warrior will not stand up against us,' said he, 'for readiness and bravery in the up-rising of battle'; and the messenger turned back and reported those words to Finn. 'I pledge my word,' said Finn, 'if our army would come to us, we should not propose those terms to them. Go thou again, my messenger,' said Finn, 'and offer them further terms.' 'What further terms?' said the messenger. 'The award of judges, and in addition to it their own award to them.'

28. And again the messenger came and offered those terms. 'It is just to accept the terms,' said Fer-tái; 'and whoever has given battle to Finn unjustly has ever been routed by Finn'; and Fer-tái spoke a lay on this:

'I have seen Finn cutting down hosts on which he broke the battle; to fight with him is an unequal contest, woe to him who goes to meet him!

'Finn will not go without fighting him though fierce be his prowess, until he be as I wish, without sense, without reason.

'The men of Moinmoy will be there with mighty blades; from your conflict, O fearless *fian*, oxen will be without a yoke.'

'It is time for me to depart now,' said the messenger. 'No other substance or terms will be accepted from you except battle,' said Emer Glúnglas son of Aedh, son of Garadh; and so said the sons of Urgriu, son of Lughaidh Corr, and so said the Luaighne of Tara.

29. The messenger went and gave a true account to Finn; 'and they say that thou art a worn-out, feeble-handed old man, Finn,' said

'Doberim brīathar ris,' ar Finn, 'gurub cath gilla óig dobér dóibsiun.' Ocus isbert in láid ann :

'Sen-Lūaighni Temrach co mbríathraib gúa,
da rīsat Brea dobēr cath núadh.

Mac Aedha mic Garaid, mac Ēmir Glúnglais,
is é crīch a ríghbais bith 'sa cath ag tnúthgreis.

Clannmaicni Uirgrenn tuitfit ina forgolld,
gach oIc da tuirmim bu dóib bus aidhgeall.

Budh ait le nāimdib da ṅdáilit bera,
bērait ina mbélaib leó na sgéla seana.'

Asa haithli-sin adbert Finn : 'Ērig, a echlach, 7 tairg tuilled comadh dóib súd ar sotlacht a slúaigh 7 ar feabus a n-engnama 7 ar détlacht a ndeghdáinead 7 ar cródacht a comairle, úair nemaithmech gach náma, a echlach,' ar sé, '7 tabair a mbreith féin dóib, ár ní maith cath gan chomha.' Tānic tra Birgod banechlach co hairm hi rabatar na maithi-sin 7 targaid a mbreith fē[i]n dōib. 'Ní ghébum crodh nā coma nā tír nā talmain, acht cath co ṅdíglum ar senfolta co sunda,' ar in senlāech. Ocus fóbrais Fer lí marbad na hechlaigi 7 nīr liged dó. 'Doberim dom brēthir ris,' ar Fer lí, 'a Birgad, da faicther tú doridísi, co n-imérat gairdi thsāegail fort.'

30. Et ro impōidh Birgad isin sligid 7 ro tōgaib a hétach ós meallach a más 7 tebest fécheamnus 'na cinn 7 a tenga ar folúamain ré mét in imgábaid a raibi, co ríacht Finn co hairm hi raibe. (fo. 23a2) Ótconnairc Finn na hairdena-sin ar Birgad, dorinni in frithlerg-so :

'A Birgad, a echlach,
dobir ar túatha trethnach,
atā do t[h]enga ar dechrad,
nā habair rinn acht fír.
Ma da tecaid Lúaigne
's a scéith ar a ṅgūallib
is na fir ō Chúalngne
bid aithrech . . .'[1]

[1] Something omitted in the MS.

the messenger. 'I pledge my word,' said Finn, 'that I will fight them like a youngster.' And then he spoke this lay:

'The ancient Luaighne of Tara with false words, if they come to Brea, I shall give vigorous battle.

'The son of Aedh, son of Garadh, the son of Émer Glúnglas, this is the end of his . . . to be in the battle . . .

'The children of Urgriu will fall in witness of it; every wrong which I recount, to them it shall be destruction.

'Foes will deem it sport when they scatter spears; they will carry with them on their lips the ancient stories.'

Thereupon Finn said: 'Go, my messenger, and offer them further terms on account of the pride of their host and the excellence of their prowess and the boldness of their gentlemen and the daring of their counsel; for every enemy is unforgiving, my messenger,' quoth he. 'And offer them their own award, for a battle without terms is not good.' So Birgad, the female messenger, came to where those nobles were, and offered them their own award. 'We shall not accept substance nor terms nor territory nor land, but battle, so that we may avenge our ancient wrongs hitherto,' said the old warrior.[1] And Fer-lí attempted to kill the messenger, but he was not allowed. 'I pledge my word for it,' said Fer-lí, 'O Birgad, if thou art seen again, that I shall shorten thy life.'

30. And Birgad returned upon the road and lifted up her dress above the globe of her buttocks, and . . . in her head, her tongue quivering with the great danger in which she was, and so she came to where Finn was. When Finn beheld those signs on Birgad, he made this rhetoric.[2]

'O my messenger Birgad, that travellest over tribes, thy tongue is panic-stricken, speak nought to us but truth! If the Luaighne come with their shields upon their shoulders, and the men from Coolney, sorrowful will be . . .'

[1] i.e., Fer-lí

[2] A name for a poem composed in a certain metre.

Ocus ro frecair Birgad hé 7 atbert so ann :

'Ale, a Find imnedaigh,
fada atá ga tharrngere,
biaid tú hi gcosguir cró
Tegait chucut Lúaigni
's a scēith ar a ṅgúaillib
is na fir ō Chūailgne
is Émer ar ōen leó.'

[Finn :] 'Da roisi hi gcend catha,
bud forderg[1] in fatha,
is olc tachar flatha
re fatha gan chin.
Ar n-érgi na féne
da muidhi hi cond cēilli
ticfat a cend clēithi
da mbía mēidhi ar bir.' A Birgad.

'A rīgfénnidh,'[2] ar Birgad, 'dochuiretar sūt a comuirli dēntáib chugat-sa,' ar sí, '7 déna calma a n-agaid na cuinged catha út 7 Lúaighne Temrach.' 'Dogēntar immorro,' ar Finn, 'ūair budh forderg forránach fergarnaidh[3] na fuighle feichemnuis dogēn-sa friú, ar Finn.

31. Is annsin éirgis rígfénnid[2] Hērenn[4] 7 Alban 7 Saxan 7 Bretan 7 Leó[d]us 7 Lochlann 7 na n-ailēn cendtarach et gabuis a c[h]atherred catha 7 comraic 7 comlainn uime .i. léne thana s'daide do sróll súaichnidh sainemail Tíri trebarglaine Tairrngire ré grían a geilchnis 7 gabuis a c[h]eithri cīarlénti fichet cíartha clártha comdlútha cotúin uime tarsi-sin amuigh anechtair 7 gabuis a lūirig tigh treabraid trédúalaig don fúairíarann athlegtha ar a n-úachtar sin 7 a sgaba engach óirc[h]imsach im a muinél 7 gabais clārc[h]oilér cressa comart[h]aigh comdaingin co ndealbaib dúaibsecha dracconn fo chóel a chuirp, co ngabad dó ó tarb a slíasat co derc a osgaile, da sgendis renna 7 fóebuir. 7 ro congbad a slega crandremra curata cōigrinne a n-urc[h]omair in rígh 7 tarraid a chlaidhem órdor[n]cair i n-echruis[5] for a c[h]líu 7 glacais a manáis lethanglas límtha lochlannach ina láim 7 tarraid a sciath scothamlach scáthūaine co mbúailtib breca

[1] *forrderg* MS. [2] *rīfénnigh* MS. [3] *fergarnaigh* MS. [4] *herinn* MS. [5] leg. ecrus.

And Birgad answered him and said:

'Ah Finn, thou man of troubles, long has it been prophesied, thou shalt be in a litter of gore. The Luaighne will come to thee with their shields upon their shoulders, and the men of Coolney and Émer along with them.'

[Finn:] 'If thou goest into battle, let the cause be bloody. 'Tis wrong to oppose a prince for a cause without crime. When the *fian* has risen, if they be worsted in sense and reason, I shall come against the battle, whence a trunk will be upon a spit.'

'O royal chief of the *fiana*,' said Birgad, 'those yonder have with one accord taken their counsel against you,' said she, 'and act bravely against those warriors and the Luaighne of Tara.' 'It shall be done, then,' said Finn; 'for the debtor's speech which I shall hold with them will be bloody and crushing, wrathful and relentless.'

31. Then rose the royal chief of the *fiana* of Ireland and Scotland and of the Saxons and Britons, of Lewis and Norway and of the hither islands, and put on his battle-dress of combat and contest, even a thin, silken shirt of wonderful, choice satin of the fair-cultivated Land of Promise over the face of his white skin; and outside over that he put his twenty-four waxed, stout shirts of cotton, firm as a board, about him, and on the top of those he put his beautiful, plaited, three-meshed coat of mail of cold refined iron, and around his neck his graven gold-bordered breastplate, and about his waist he put a stout corslet with a decorated, firm belt with gruesome images of dragons, so that it reached from the thick of his thighs to his arm-pit, whence spears and blades would rebound. And his stout-shafted martial five-edged spears were placed over against the king, and he put his gold-hafted sword in readiness on his left, and he grasped his broad-blue, well-ground Norse lance, and upon the arched expanse of his back he placed his emerald-tinted shield with flowery designs and

bitháilli do bánór[1] 7 co comr*ad*aib finnáille finndruine 7 co slabraduib snithi sesmacha senairg*it* for sdúadhlerg a dhruma 7 gabais a c[h]athbarr círach clárach ceth[ir]eochrach don ōr álainn órloisg[th]i co ngemuib glémaisigha glainidhi[2] 7 go leguib lainderdha lánáilli lōghmura arna n-egar do lámaib súadh 7 sáircherd ind do dítin chind in chur*ad* isin chath.

32. Oc*us* tánic roime fón samla ina c[h]lothbili chongbā'a catha 7 ina dos dítin deghlāech 7 ina ṡonn sesmach slūagh 7 sochaide 7 ina c[h]omlaidh chothai[g]the cur*ad* 7 cathmíl*ed* íarthair domuin 7 nír an don rṓim-sin co ríacht co hur in átha. Dōigh ám nírb ingnam ríghi nhĒrenn 7 Alban 7 rīgfēnnidecht[3] in domuin uile do b*eith* ag Finn Mac Cumail[l] mun am*m*-sin, ar fa hē in cūigcd sái re gach sáircheird é 7 tres gein sochuir hĒrenn .i. Lugh Lāmfota mac Cēin ro díchur (fo. 23*b*1) fine Fomra a hĒrinn oc*us* Brían Bóruma mac Cinnédigh tuc hÉre a dáir[i] 7 a dochraiti co nach raibi cáithlech ātha i nĒrinn gan Gall dáer ic a frithālom fair no gur díchuir Brían íat 7 Fiud mac Cumaill in tres gin tsochuir hĒrenn ac díchur danar 7 díbergach 7 úath 7 arracht 7 ilphíast oc*us* loingsidh lánmór 7 gach ṅdoccamuil árchena a hĒrinn. Ocus tánic bódíth ind-Érinn ón uillind co arali 7 rusbithn*aig* Finn fir hĒrenn re bl*iadain* 7 tuc secht mba 7 tarb in gach ēnbaile i nhĒrinn.

33. Acht atá ní chena, tánic in seanōir sūaichnidh sonairt sithchenach-sin .i. Finn 7 gabais lāma for in úath*ad* slúaigh robúi ina farr*ad* im calma do dēnom a n-agaid na sochraiti robúi ar a cinn. Et ro érgetar na cūig cét déc fíangaiscedhach robūi hi fochuir Finn re gairbgr*esad* gotha a tigerna 7 ro ling gach lāech ina lúir*ig* dīb 7 roglacc gach cur*aid* a claidem 7 do gab gach mílidh a manáis, co rabatur fó bróin sc*éith* 7 cl*aid*im 7 cathbair[r] fa Finn mac Cumuill 7 fa Cétach Cithach mac rī[g] Lochl*ann* oc*us* fa Laegaire lūathbéimnech mac Duib mic Sálmóir mic rí[g] bfer Fánnoll 7 fa Aedh ṁBaillderg

[1] bánóir MS. [2] glainighi MS. [3] ri fennigh*echt* MS.

with variegated, beautiful bosses of pale gold, and with delightful studs of bronze, and with twisted stout chains of old silver; and to protect the hero's head in battle he seized his crested, plated, four-edged helmet of beautiful, refined gold with bright, magnificent, crystal gems and with flashing, full-beautiful, precious stones which had been set in it by the hands of master-smiths and great artists.

32. And in that way he went forth, a famous tree of upholding battle, and a bush of shelter for brave warriors, and a stable stake for hosts and multitudes, and a protecting door-valve for warriors and battle-soldiers of the western world; nor did he stop in his course until he reached the brink of the ford. Truly it was no wonder that the kingship of Ireland and Scotland and the headship of the *fiana* of the whole world should be in the hands of Finn son of Cumhall at that time; for he was one of the five masters in every great art, and one of the three sons of comfort to Ireland, even Lugh Longhand, son of Cian, who ousted the race of Fomorians from Ireland; and Brian of Bóromha, son of Cennédigh, who brought Ireland out of bondage and oppression so that there was not a winnowing-sheet of any kiln in Ireland without a Norse slave to work it until Brian cast them out; and Finn son of Cumhall, the third son of comfort to Ireland, who expelled from Ireland marauders and reavers and horrible things and monsters and many beasts and full many a fleet of exiles and every other pest. And there came a murrain to Ireland from one corner to another; and for a whole year Finn fed the men of Ireland and put seven cows and a bull in every single steading in Ireland.[1]

33. Now however that illustrious, puissant . . . senior came and pledged the small host that was with him to behave bravely against the army before them. And the fifteen hundred *fian*-warriors that were with Finn rose at the powerful urging of the voice of their lord; and each warrior leapt into his coat of mail and grasped his sword and seized his lance, so that they were a mass of shield and sword and helmet around Finn son of Cumhall and Cédach Ciothach, the son of the king of Norway, and around Laeghaire of the swift blows, the son of Dubh, son of Sálmhor, son of the king of the men

[1] Quoted from *Cogadh Gáel re Gallaib*, p. 116, l. 9: co ná rabí cáthlech ó Beind Édair co Tech Duind iar nÉrind gan Gall i ndáiri fair.

mac Fóeláin mic Finn 7 fa trí Conuib Móenmuighe. Et rothógbatar doiredha dlúithe díghainne dímóra donnrúada derglasrach da crāisechaib crannremra curata cōigrindi 7 da laighnib lethanglasa 7 da fogháithib fuilccha fóebarderga 7 dorónsat mainner áthusach ogulborb aintrenta 7 léibend daing*en* dlúith dīthoghl*aidi* doscáilti do scíathaib scíamda scellbolgacha oc*us* do scíathaib áille āingheala 7 do scíathaib engacha úainidhe 7 do scíathaib corcra cróderga 7 do scíathaib ētrochta aladhbreca oc*us* do scíathaib dubc[h]orcra deilgnecha 7 do scíathaib brecbuidhe búabalda. Fa lór im*morro* d' úathgráin 7 do chridhenbás da ṁbidb*adaib* a faigsin fon innus-sin ar nemnighe a n-arm 7 ar ághmuiri a n-innill 7 ar crúas a craided[1] 7 ar cródhacht a comairli. 7 rucatar sidhi arnaid athlum imēsg*aid* antrenta ina cippi chóiri[g]thi 7 ina ṁbróin badhba 7 ina tuinti trethanborb co lár medhōin[2] ind átha.

34. Tāngatar im*morro* na deich cēt ar fichit cēt curad catharmach ro bātar columna na Temrach don leith ele don áth 7 rogabatar a n-erreda catha 7 comraic 7 comlainn impu 7 rosinnedh a sduicc rompo 7 rocroaaig*ed* a comairc 7 ro cóirged a cath léo 7 rohegradh 7 rohordaiged a míl*id* merc[h]alma 7 a curaid con*fad*acha 7 a n-ánraid ēchtmara a n-urt[h]osach in imbúaltà [a]*cu* .i. Fer tái mac Uaithni Irgalaig ocus Fer lí mac Fir thái ocus Ēmer Glúnglas mac Aeda mic Gar*aid* 7 cúic mic Uirgrenn 7 Aithlech mór mac Duibrend ocus Uirgrenn budesin 7 na trí Táiblendaigh a fosadlár Fernmuighe. Et rugatar sidhe saidemail sārlúath sruthlúaimnech co lármedōn in átha don tóeb araill ar agaid Finn 7 a muintire.

35. Ocus nír fuil[n]g*ed* co fada in fēghadh-sin ac*u* intan ro brúchtdoirtet na catha cechtarda hi g[c]end araile. 7 tugsat gáire arda osgurdo ōs aird, innus co raibi a mac alla a crandaib 7 a clochaib, (fo. 23b2) a n-all*aib* 7 a n-inberuib 7 a comúamannaib in talman 7 a cresuib fúara fr*ai*ghimellacha na firmamenti. Ocus ro dībraicedh aturra

[1] craidheb MS. [2] leg. lármedhón. Cf. § 34, 10.

of Fánnall, and around Aedh Balldherg, son of Faelan, son of Finn, and the three Cú's of Moinmoy. And they lifted up dense, vast, huge, dark-red, and flaming forests of stout-shafted, martial, fire-edged spears and of broad-blue lances and of bloody, red-edged javelins, and made a triumphant, angry, fierce fold, and a firm, compact, indestructible, inseparable platform of beautiful, bulging shields, and of delightful, all-white shields, and of graven, emerald shields, and of crimson, blood-red shields, and of shining, variegated shields, and of dark-crimson, spiky shields, and of yellow-speckled, buffalo-horn shields. It was enough however of horror and heart-trembling to their enemies to see them in that wise, for the venomousness of their weapons and the warlike array of their equipment and the stoutness of their hearts and the ferocity of their intent. And they made a fierce, swift, light-winged, intrepid rush in their well-arranged phalanx and in their destructive mass and in their furious band to the centre of the ford.

34. Then from the other side came to the ford the three thousand battle-equipped warriors that the 'pillars' of Tara numbered, and put their attire of battle and contest and combat about them, and their trumpets were sounded before them, and their war cries were raised defiantly, and their battle was put in order, and their impetuous, bold soldiers and their fierce warriors and their valiant heroes were arrayed in the forefront of the mutual smiting, even Fer-tái, son of Uaithne Irgalach, and Fer-lí, son of Fer-tái, and Émer Glúnglas son of Aedh, son of Garadh, and the five sons of Urgriu, and Aithlech[1] Mór, son of Dubriu, and Urgriu[2] himself and the three Táiblennachs from the stable plain of Farney. And they made a swarming, swift, torrential rush to the centre of the ford from the other side against Finn and his people.

35. And they did not long rest content with looking at each other,[3] when the two armies flung themselves against one another. And they uttered loud, mighty shouts so that their echo rang in woods and rocks, in cliffs and river-mouths and the caves of the earth and in the cold outer zones of the firmament. And there were hurled

[1] This should be Aiclech, as in Zeitschr. I., p. 464.

[2] The original has here the genitive form Urgrenn, which in so many n-stems has in Middle-Irish replaced the original nominative, as *dílenn*, for O.-Ir. *díle*, Mid.-Ir. *imlenn* for *imbliu*, &c.

[3] Literally, 'and that gaze was not long endured by them.'

frasa d'fogáithib fuilecha faoburgéra 7 do lethgāethib lethna lict[h]i 7 do c[h]lochuib crúaidhi comnerta. Et ro imfaigsigh in irghal 7 ro tendadh in troid 7 ro hai[d]bligedh in t-ár 7 ro crūadhaigh in comrac 7 ro innsaigh[1] gach cur*aid* a chēli dīb go dían duáibsech denmnedach dásachtach díchéill*ide* 7 dorinnctar gleó fíchda fergach forránach forsmachtach urlum agarb innsaigthech 7 ro caithsit cetha comóra cloch do chrúadhbris*ed* chend 7 chlogad 7 chathbarr a chéile 7 dorinne cimsa comc[h]omuisc dona cathaib mesg ar mesg. Dóigh ám rob imdo annsin slegha sithrighne 'ga sīrbris*ed* 7 claidme crúadh-slípt[h]i 'ga camplump*ad* 7 scéith scellbristi 'ga scáil*ed* 7 clogaid 7 cathbair[r] ag cominugud 7 amuis 7 ánruid ag a n-athchuma. Rob imda ann da*no* cuirp chirrfa[2] 7 cnis c*er*ptha oc*us* taóib tolla 7 láich lonna ledartha 7 ánr*aid* arna n-a[i]rl*ech* ocus colla curad hi cosair *chró*. Fa lór im*morro* do marb*ad* múadhlāech oc*us* midhlāech féch*ain* fíarletartadh na fíarlann ar formnaib na feróg*lach* 7 tairm na trénfer ic toitim 7 scolgaire na scíath ag a scoltad 7 drongáir na lúirech línech ag a láechbris*ed* 7 coicetal na claideb ré círuib na cathbarr 7 lētgaire na lāechraide ac ursclaighe[3] ar na hánr*adaib*.

36. Et nīr ansat na curaid don *chon*gail comarbtha sin gur bo corcra comaisc[th]i in t-áth ón uillinn goraili 7 co m[b]o cuire cróderg cubrach buinnedha borba búaidherta na Bóinne ōn áth sís le himat na fola ac sil*ed* as cnesuib na curad. Is annsin tāngatar días do muintir Finn a cath na columon .i. Tnúthach mac Dubt*haig* 7 Túarán mac Tomair 7 tucatar in días-[s]in búaidred ar buidhn*ib*, co torchratar nōenmur læch lé gach duine díb, co tarrla días do macaib Uirgrend ina n-agaid isin chath gur fersat com*rac* a cethrar 7 dorochratar in días-[s]in di muinntir Finn lé macuib Uirgrenn hi crīch in coml*ainn*.

37. Is annsin im*morro* tān*ic* læch arnaid annsergach do muintir Finn hi cath na columon .i. Lægaire Lúathbéimnech mac Duib mic Sálmóir mac rí[g] fer Fánoll ocus do bris b*er*n c*ēit* isin c*ath* i n-urc[h]omair a aigthi 7 ro imir a ferg ar Lúaighni Temrach, co torchratar cót lāech lasamoin lángér leis do muintir Fir lí. Ōt-connairc Fer lí im*morro* in sern*ad* slig*e* 7 in rorēidhiugud ríghda

[1] innsaidh MS. [2] = chirrbtha. [3] ursclaidhe MS.

between them showers of bloody, sharp-edged javelins, and of broad half-spears for throwing, and of hard mighty stones. And the battle became closer, and the conflict intense, and the slaughter grew vast, and the combat became embittered, and each warrior attacked another vehemently, fiercely, impatiently, furiously, madly, and they made an angry, wrathful, crushing, masterful, brisk, bitter, earnest fight, and they flung huge showers of stones to break each other's heads and skulls and helmets, and the fringes of the two armies became mingled in confusion. Then indeed many a stout spear was broken, and many a hard-ground sword bent, and many a broken shield shattered, and helmets and head-pieces broken to pieces, while soldiers and champions were inflicting wounds. Then were many bodies maimed and skins lacerated, and sides pierced, and bold warriors mangled, and champions cut down, and bodies of heroes in their litter of blood. It was enough to kill half-hearted warriors and cowards merely to behold the transverse smiting of the crooked blades upon the shoulders of the men, and to hear the roar of the champions as they fell, and the clangour of the shields as they were split, and the crack of the lined corslets as they were broken, and the ringing of the swords upon the crests of the helmets, and the outcry of the host as they were defending themselves against the champions.

36. And the warriors did not cease from the deadly conflict until from one end to another the ford was crimson and turbid, and until with the mass of blood that flowed out of the warriors' wounds the heavy troubled waters of the Boyne from the ford downward were a blood-red foaming caldron. Then came a couple of Finn's people into the battalion of the 'pillars,' even Tnúthach, son of Dubthach, and Tuaran, son of Tomhar, and those two brought disaster upon the troops, so that nine warriors fell by each of them, until two of the sons of Urgriu came against them in the battle, so that the four fought together. And that couple of Finn's people fell by the sons of Urgriu in the confines of the combat.

37. Thereupon a fierce, implacable warrior of Finn's people came into the battalion of the 'pillars,' viz. Laeghaire of the swift blows, son of Dubh, son of Sálmhor, son of the king of the men of Fánnall, and he made a breach of a hundred in the battle right in front of him, and he plied his wrath upon the Luaighne of Tara, so that one hundred warriors of the people of Fer-lí fell by him. However,

romór-sin 7 in cumach catha tug Lægairi for a muintir, tánic Fer lí a cend conaire dó. 'Is baranta na borbrúathair-sin, a Lægairi,' ar Fer lí. 'Is fír ón,' 'ar Lægairi, '7 nī frit-sa bērtar a buidhi. Ní comc[h]ogur carat tucabair-si ar ar muinntir-ni,' ar Lægairi. Is annsin tāngatar cēt læch lasamuin lángēr do muintir Fir lí ar a bélaib isin irgail 7 torchuirsit in cét læch-sin lé Lægairi ar inchuib a tigerna. 7 gonuis Láegairi Fer lí 7 gonais Fer lī ēisin i[1] comáin a ghona. 7 tāngatar cét læch arnaid ansergach eili do muintir Fir lí ar a inchaib isin uair-sin 7 torchratar in cēt-sin do lāim Láegairi hi críchaib in c[h]omlainn. 7 gonuis Fer lí ēsim 7 gonuis sim Fer lí. Acht chena tárratar in días [s]in árach comraic 7 comlainn ar a céli, gur sáithetar slegha crannremra curata crōrighni a taobaib 7 a torcasnach a chēile. Acht atā nī chena, fa būaidhred arna buidhnib (fo. 24a1) ocus fa crithnugud ar na cathuib beth hic fēchain comruig na desi-sin, co torchair Lægairi hi críchaib in chomlainn le Fer lí 7 comáidis Fer lí in cosgur.

38. Ní har tlás nā ar time dochúaidh sin d'Finn ná dá muintir, acht ro crúadhaighsit in cath 7 ro thennsat.[2] Ar tuitim Láegairi immorro tánicc Cétach Cithach mac rí[g] Lochlann hi cath na columan 7 ba húathbásach na hírnadha aimrēidhe dorinni dona cathaib ina urthimchill co mbenadh bonn fri bonn 7 dóid fri dóid 7 méidhi fri mēdhe dá bidhbadaib cach conairi no t[h]éghedh. Ótconnuicc Émer Glúnglas mac Oedho mic Garaid in cumach curad 7 in rúathar rí[g]-míled-sin fa mac rígh Lochlann tānicc fé[i]n hi gcenn conaire do Chētach amail tarp tnúthach troda hi comarchis choinglecca 7 ōtconcatar a chéili tucsatar dá śidhi tenda troda d'arali, gurba mescaithi cách hic a coimfēchain. Acht atā ní chena, torchratar trī cēt curad comlannach crúaidh aturro 7 torchratar a n-amus imdegla 7 nī frith fóirithin ar na feruib 7 ro bo cinti crīch i mbethaid i n-imfogus dóib. Nīr coigletar corp arali go torchratar comthuitim le chéle hi fíadnaise na cath .i. Ēmer 7 Cétach Cithach.

39. Is annsin tánic Aedh Ballderg mac Fóelāin Finn fa slúagaib na columan 7 ro léiged dorusbél mór dó isin chath gur úathbásach ré fēchain ē gach conuir no théged. Et tarrla Aithlech Mór mac

[1] e MS. [2] Something seems omitted here.

when Fer-lí saw the spreading of the slaughter and that great royal clearance and the battle-breaking which Laeghaire wrought on his people, he came to meet him. 'Furious are those onslaughts, Laeghaire,' said Fer-lí. ''Tis true, indeed,' said Laeghaire, 'and no thanks to thee. 'Tis not a friendly discourse which you have held with our people.' Then came one hundred flaming full-keen warriors of Fer-lí's people against him in the battle, and they all fell by Laeghaire's hand before the eyes of their lord. And Laeghaire wounded Fer-lí, and in return for his wound Fer-lí wounded him. And just then there came another hundred angry implacable warriors of Fer-lí's people, and those hundred also fell by Laeghaire's hand in the confines of the contest. And Fer-lí wounded him, and he wounded Fer-lí. However, those two pledged each other (?) to encounter and combat, so that they planted stout-shafted martial hard-socketed spears into each other's sides and ribs. It was confusion to the companies and trembling to the battalions to be looking on at the encounter of those two, until Laeghaire fell by Fer-lí in the confines of combat, and Fer-lí boasted of the triumph.

38. That did not intimidate or frighten Finn or his people, but they pressed the battle and urged. . . . After the fall of Laeghaire came Cédach Ciothach, son of the King of Norway, into the battalion of the 'pillars,' and terrible were the ungentle . . . . which he wrought among the battalions round about him, so that sole would touch sole, and arm arm, and neck neck, wherever he went among the enemy. When Émer Glúnglas, son of Aedh, son of Garadh, beheld the slaughter of warriors and that onset of the royal hero, he came himself to meet Cédach like an angry combative bull to a trial of strength. And when they saw one another they rushed at each other stoutly for the contest, so that everyone who was looking on was confounded. However, three hundred valiant, fierce warriors fell between them, and their household guard fell, nor was there any help found against the men, and to come near them was certain end of life. They never spared one another's body until they both fell at each other's hands in the presence of the battalions, even Émer and Cédach Ciothach.

39. Then came Aedh Baillderg son of Faelan Finn among the hosts of the 'pillars,' and a wide passage was made for him in the battle, so that he was terrible to see wherever he went. And

Duibrend 7 Aedh da chéli isin cath co torchratar trī nōnmuir lāech lé hAedh mBaillderg do ghlēri muintire *mic* Uirg*renn*, go tarrla it*er* Aichlech 7 Oedh Baillderg gur fersat coml*ann* crōdha curata fria chēli. Fa húathbásach na hál*aid*-sin 7 fá gáibthech na gona 7 fá fíartharrsna na ferchrēchta tucatar ar corpaib a chéle go torchair Aedh Baillderg le hAithlech i crīch in c[h]oml*ainn*.

40. Ōtconnuic im*morro* in flaithfénnidh Find ferchuingedha na féni arna falmugud 7 a trénfĭr ar tuitim 7 a óes grādha arna n-air*lech*, ro dēch in senóir forbthe fírglic gur búaine bladh inā šáegal dó 7 gur bferr dó bás d' fagb*āil* nā māithmighe do dénum réna nāimdib. Et is annsin tánic in rí[g]fénnid fa šlúagaib na columan 7 ro métaigh a menma 7 ro ardaig a aigned 7 ro lúath*aig* a láma 7 ro brest*aig* na béminna, gur éir*ig* a én gaile os anáil in rí[g]míled go nār fētatar for*ni* feróglach fulung i n-ure[h]omair a āithi go fágb*ad* in fer hi fail a glūi*n* 7 himad a traig*ed* díb ina tortuib[1] tamnai[g]thi 7 ina mēidhib móilderga 7 ina cosuir c*hró* gach conair no t[h]ēged isin cath, oc*us* do chú[a]idh fúthu 7 tríthu 7 tarsa mur dam ṅdían ṅdásachtach arna drochbúalad nō mur leom*an* arna chrád fána chuilēnaib nō mur buinni ṅdían ṅdílinn scēithes a hucht airdslébe i n-aimsir thuili brisis 7 minaigh*es* gach nī gusa roichend. Oc*us* ro timch*ell* cath na columan fo thri amail timc[h]ill*es* féth fidh nō mur chenglus ben bāidh a m*ac*, gur ba samalta fri hurlaidhi gab*ann* hi cerdcha nō fri fúaim crínchrann hig a coimbris*ed* nō fri lecuib aigri fo chosuib echraide fúaim les 7 laorg 7 lethchend fo dhéis a chlaidim isin chath. 7 ro gáir- (fo. 24*a*2) etar bánánaigh 7 bocánaigh 7 badhba bēlderga 7 ginite glinne 7 demna aieóir 7 arrachta folūaimnecha na firmamenti hi comór*ad* áigh 7 irgaili ós cinn in rí[g]fēinned ga[ch] slig*id* da ṅgab*ad* isin cath 7 nīr scuir in rí[g]mílid don rūathur-sin nogur díthláith*red* cath na columan it*er* thuitim 7 teched,[2] acht Fer lí 7 Fer tāi 7 cúig mic Uirgrenn.

41. Ōtconnairc Fer lí Finn ina óenar gan amus ac a imdeghail 7 gan charait ic a chūlchoimēd, tánic hi cend conaire dó 7 ro chuimn*ig*

[1] torthuib MS. [2] teth*ed* MS.

Aithlech Mór, son of Duibriu, and Aedh met in the battle, so that thrice nine warriors of the flower of Mac Uirgriu's people fell by Aedh Baillderg, and they made a valiant bloody heroic combat against one another. Those were terrible wounds and perilous maimings, and intersecting were the injuries which they inflicted on each other's bodies, until Aedh Baillderg fell in the confines of the combat.

40. Now when the prince of the *fiana* Finn saw that the champions of the *fian* were laid low and that their strong men had fallen and men of rank had been slain, the perfect, wise senior understood that fame was more lasting than life for him and that it was better for him to die than to flinch before the enemy. 'Twas then the royal *fian*-chief came to the hosts of the 'pillars,' and his spirits grew high and his courage rose and he quickened his hands and he plied his blows, so that his bird of valour arose over the breath of the royal warrior, so that crowds of warriors were unable to stand against his valour, so that men fell round his knee and a heap of them was piled up in their maimed bodies and bloody truncated necks and litter of gore wherever he would go in the battle. And he went among them and through them and over them like a fierce furious ox that has been badly beaten, or like a lion whose young have been wounded, or like a turbulent wave of deluge that in the time of flood spouts from the breast of a high mountain, breaking and crushing everything which it reaches. And three times he went round the battalion of the 'pillars,' as the woodbine hugs a tree, or as a fond woman clasps her son, and the crushing of thighs and shin-bones and halves of heads under the edge of his sword in the battle was like the smiting of a smith in the forge, or like the uproar of withered trees cracking, or like sheets of ice under the feet of a cavalcade. And pale-faced and buck-shaped sprites and red-mouthed battle-demons and the spectres of the glen and the fiends of the air and the giddy phantoms of the firmament shrieked as they waged warfare and strife above the head of the *fian*-chief wherever he went in the battle. And the royal warrior never ceased from that onset until the battalion of the 'pillars' was annihilated both by slaughter and flight, all save Fer-lí and Fer-tái and the five sons Uirgriu.

41. When Fer-lí saw Finn by himself without any troops to protect him and without a friend to guard his back, he came to meet

a escairdes don rí[g] fēinnid. Fregrais Finn Fer lí 7 isbert: 'Tuitfer-si fēin isna folt*aib* sin,' ar sé. Acht chena ro . . . comrac ōenláth*air* don dís-sin. Fa crūaidh conᵓmail comnert in cominnsaige-sin. Fa dúthrachtach dígaltach duáibsech díanbuill*ech* comrac na desi-sin. Fa grāinnᵓmail gúsachtach glétnighe crūadhchoigetal na claidem[1] 7 na colg ūdét ré cendaib 7 re clogataib a chéli. Ō thairnic d' Fer lí a c[h]laid*im* do chaithim re cend 7 re col*ainn* in rí[g]fēnnid, tárr*aid* in tsl*eg* crannremur chóigrinne 7 tuc urchor séitrech síre[h]alma cert-c[h]oimsech curata ar Finn, gur chuir in tsl*eig* tresin éd*ach* imdo ro bōi imon rí[g]mílid, gur t*reg*hdastar in tsl*eg* trít é ar cirrbad a *chuirp*. Fa fergach forrānach ro fregair in rí[g]fénnid in t-anbf*orlonn* ál*ad* sin tuc Fer lí fair, go tuc béim barranta borrfadach crūadh cnáimletartha claidim d' Fer lí, gur ben a chend da cholainn.[2] 7 comáidhis Finn in t-áirsidh[3] irgaile 7 in sond sídgaile-sin do thuitim leis.

42. Ōtconnairc im*morro* Fer tái mac Uaithne Irgalaig a mac do thuidim, tánic co dísgir domenmnach denmnetach hi cend conaire d'Finn 7 is ed ro ráidh: 'Is mór ám na héchta-sin, a Finn,' ar Fer tái. 'Is fír ōn,' ar Finn, '7 cidh na*ch* gustrásta tánac-si?' ar Finn. 'Ba m*en*manr*ad* lem co tuitfeá-sa le Fer lí 7 ro bu luinne lim do thuitim leis nā lim fēin.' 'In dom airchis*ed* tānac*ais*-si,' ar Finn, 'nō in dom innsaige?' 'Is dot innsaige ām,' ar Fer tāi, 'ar nír hordaiged do thigernus *nā* d . . . . *nā* d'innilib ní ara maithfinn-si mo mac do marbad.' Is amlaid ro ch . . . . oc*us* ro innsa*ig* sé Finn gan chéill gan chuimni gan choigill. Ro fregradh in fēndid[4] fírchalma sin ag Finn. Ro thógbatar in dīas-sin clesa coimimda cur*ad* do díth 7 do dílgend araili, acht ba doirb doſaisnési do dóinib túaruscbāil na hirgaili-sin do thabairt, úair fa tarbda tinnesnach na tairberta 7 fa garb gáibthech gúsachtach na gona 7 fa harnaidh aigméil na hál*aid* tucsadar for a chéli 7 tárr*aid* Fer tái bóeghal gona forsin rí[g]fénidh, go tug sáthadh sl*eg*i fair co nārba lugha a hoslugud don tōeb araill

[1] cl*aid*im MS.

[2] Here and elsewhere where the death of a hero is narrated a cross is made in the margin.

[3] áirsigh MS.

[4] fendigh MS.

him and rehearsed[1] his enmity against the royal *fian*-chief. Finn answered Fer-lí and said: 'Thou wilt thyself fall for those feuds,' said he. However, those two began a combat on the spot. That mutual onset was fierce, wolf-like, equally strong. The encounter of those two was impetuous, vengeful, stern, and of fierce strokes. The harsh clashing of the swords and of the tusk-hilted blades against the heads and helmets of each other was horrible, parlous, ... When Fer-lí had worn out his sword against the head and body of the royal *fian*-chief, he seized the stout-shafted five-edged spear and made a stout, valiant, justly-poised warrior-like cast at Finn, so that he sent the spear through the ample dress which was about the royal warrior, so that the spear pierced him through and through after mangling his body. Angrily and destructively did the royal *fian*-chief answer that murderous wound which Fer-lí had inflicted on him, so that he gave him a . . . fierce, hard, bone-crushing blow with his sword, so that he struck his head off his body. And Finn boasted of that veteran warrior and that prop of battle having fallen by him.

42. However when Fer-tái, son of Uaithne Irgalach, beheld his son falling, he came vehemently, sullenly, impatiently towards Finn and said: 'Those in sooth are great deeds, Finn,' said he. 'That is true,' said Finn; 'and why hast thou not come till now?' 'I had hoped thou wouldst have fallen by Fer-lí and I should have liked thee to fall by him rather than by me.' 'Hast thou come to commiserate me,' said Finn, 'or to attack me?' 'To attack thee, indeed,' said Fer-lí, 'for nought of lordship nor of . . . nor of wealth has been appointed for which I should forgive the slaying of my son.' Thus . . . and he attacked Finn without sense, without reflection, and without sparing. Finn met that truly bold champion. Those two performed many heroic feats to destroy and to annihilate each other; but it were difficult and impossible for men to give a description of that fight, for the charges were bull-like, headlong, and fierce, parlous, dangerous were the wounds and cruel and terrible the injuries which they inflicted on each other. And Fer-tái seized an opportunity of wounding the royal *fian*-chief, and gave him such a thrust with his spear that the wound yawned no less on the other side than on the side on which he had struck. And in revenge for his wound Finn dealt

[1] Literally, 'remembered.'

innās don tóeb ar bean. Oc*us* tug Finn crúadhbéim claidhim d'Fer tái a ṅdígail a ghona, co nár bó dín láir*ech* leburlaidsech *nā* cotūn comdlúta nā édedh arn*aid* allmurdo d'Fer tái, co torchuir in trénfer for talmain 'na dá ord*lach* imthroma. Ocus comáidis Finn in mórécht-sin do thuitim leis.

43. Is í-sin úair fa tāngatar cūic mic Uirgrend go lāthair 7 tugsat a n-ag*aid* ar Finn. Ōtconn*airc* Finn na fírnāimde-sin da innsaig*e*, nír ingaib íat gur ṡáithsetar sl*eig* gac*h*a fir díb isin rí[g] féindid 7 ro fregair-sium in *cōic*er cur*ad* co comthrom, go tug guin 'saṅ guin dōib. Ōtconncátar cl*ann* Uirgrenn in cur*aid* arna c[h]rēchtnugud isna comraguib roimi ro chuirestar fri Fer tāi oc*us* friana mac .i. fri Fer líí 7 é anbonn ó ṡīl*ed* a ḟola . . . . . .

[End of fo. 24*a*2.]

Fer-tái such a fierce blow with his sword that neither the long . . . corslet nor the compact wadding nor the hard foreign armour was any protection to Fer-tái, so that the champion fell to the ground in two heavy pieces. And Finn boasted of having achieved that great deed.[1]

43. This was the hour in which the five sons of Uirgriu came upon the scene and turned their faces towards Finn. When Finn beheld those inveterate enemies making for him, he avoided them not. And each of them planted a spear in the royal *fían*-chief. And he replied to the five champions with equal force and gave them wound for wound. When the children of Uirgriu saw that the hero had been wounded in the earlier combats which he had fought with Fer-tái and his son, even Fer-lí, and that he was feeble from loss of blood. . . .

[1] Literally, 'of that great deed having fallen by him.'

GLOSSARY OF THE RARER WORDS

The first number refers to the pages ; the second, unless preceded by §, to the lines.

ad-ellaim (le) *I seize, take.* subj. sg. 2 adarella 14 § 29

ad-gládur *I address.* ipv. sg. 2 -aicille 10 § 1. 16 § 49. -agille 8, 8. ná acaille Senchán! Corm. s. v. prull

ad-midiur *I attack.* fut. sg. 3 atotmástar 36, 19

air-im-bert (W. armerth) *an equipping, equipment.* 24, 5. dat. huand airmiurt gl. *apparatu*, Ml. 40*d*12.[a] a airmbert in chatha sin, Alex. 570

air-meirb *very feeble.* 12 § 16

aisim *I hate.* 16 § 42. See p. 20

allata *renowned.* 12 § 13

allchomut? 38, 5

altach *jointed.* buird altacha 56, 1. úas cech altóir aird altaig, Lism. L. p. 346

altram f. *nurture.* gen. mac altrama *foster-son.* 28, 5. dat. dia altraim, Fél.[2] 44

aith-forgab[1] m. *a weapon.* gen. aithforgaiḃ 12 § 16. acc. cen athargubu, Ml. 64*a*11, 66*c*11. cf. inna aithergubthi gl. instructos diuerso armorum genere, Ml. 95*a*2

anamán *little soul,* a term of endearment. 44 § 10

arances? 30, 24

as-orggim *I strike.* perf. pl. 1 ascomartmar 26, 18. assurg i. cuedo, O'Mulc. 306. rusnesart, Dinds. 32

árrachtus m. *strength.* 70, 1

arsisbis *she lay in.* 4, 9

astóidim *I glisten, glitter.* fut. sg. 3 astóidfa 14 § 26

bair? 36, 19

banánach[2] m. *a pale spectre.* 94, 25

bél-fairsing *wide-doored.* 70, 31

bél-scalán *a tent.* 58, 4

beuil *grease.* 14 § 23

bilga? 64, 17

bithnaigim *I feed.* 86, 20

blad n. *renown.* 4, 19. gen. sg. certfichi bliadna blada LL. 130*a*16

brecht *doubt.* 14 § 32. breacht .i. cuntabairt, Edinb. Voc. See Contribb. s. v. 5. bricht

brestaigim *I ply.* 94, 12

bol = **bal** f. *luck.* 16 § 41

bricín *a checkered coif.* 72, 25

bróin[3] f. *a mase.* 86, 28. 88, 13

brotla *splendid, grand.* 70, 30

búabalda *made of buffalo-horn.* scíath b. 88, 9

búailtech *embossed.* 56, 6

[1] The word seems feminine in the later language. Cf. fa crēchtach an fer ón afurgaib, CZ vi. 30.

[2] D'Arbois de Jubainville's explanation of this word as '*pale-faced*' is based on the wrong assumption that the second *a* is short.

[3] Sic leg. in Contribb., p. 267. Dele ib. cf. brainechda.

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cailte f. *hardness, harshness.* 46 § 1
cáin-chomráitech *conversing affably.* 64, 4
cais-gen *a hateful laugh.* 16 § 42
cáithlech *a winnowing-sheet.* 86, 16
cam-plumpad *a bending.* 90, 10
carr f. *a peg* (of a harp). n. pl. carra 34, 3
cert-choimsech *properly poised.* 96, 8
cesim: roches a menma forru *they grumbled at them.* 78, 1
cét-guin f. *a mighty blow.* 12 § 17. 14 § 25
cíar-léne *a waxed shirt.* n. pl. -lénti 72, 8. 84, 26
cícmar *eager.* 52, 22
cobrad 16 § 46 = comrād *conversation.* Sic leg. 16 § 49?
cobraim *conversation.* 12 § 23
coicne (coigne) 10 § 11? coicne (coigne) gér gonus dáine, ní fríthe mára,| mairg troich tar rói ména | adchí ména maicc snáma H. 3. 18, p. 72*c* and p. 636. coic .i. comairle, ut alius: dobruicim (domruicim) cuan 7 dombruc fobithin is inann coicne coic (inann cuic) dotnuc (donuc) 7 dotnuice (donuice), ib. 66*b* and 633.
coicne = coicle *mate.* 10 § 6. See Contribb.
com-áentadach *united, joint.* 52, 23
comarc m. *an outcry.* ac gairm comharc co tinnisnech ar omhun lae an brátha, RC. 28, 310. Aisl. Tund. Index. *a war-cry, signal.* gen. cuirn comairc, CCath. 5, 10. n. pl. comairc 88, 17. rogáirsetar a commairc cinti, Cog. 190, 27
com-ecor m. *an arrangement, setting.* 58, 23
con-berim *I conceive.* pret. sg. 3 conbert 32, 2. pret. pass. sg. is de conbreth Corc, Anecd. iii. 57, 7
con-dálim *I meet.* pres. pl. 3 condálet 34, 3
confadach *raging, furious.* 88, 19. caega do chonaib confadacha calma, RC. iv. 114
conglecach *wrestling, combative.* 78, 11
con-gleic *a wrestling.* gen. congleca (used adjectively) 64, 27. coinglecca 92, 25
con-frad *he used to give.* 6, 7
con-midiur *I fix.* pret. sg. 3 conmidir 6, 17
conn m. *a head.* 14 § 27
connlán *a company, band.* 54, 4. See Contribb. s. v. conlán
con-tung *I swear.* perf. pass. sg. conrothacht 8, 4
corr-bolg m. *a crane-bag.* 50, 14. See Contribb. s. v.
cotún m. *a wadded or quilted tunic worn under the hauberk, originally made of cotton.* 72, 8. 98, 2. See T. O'Rathaille, Gael. J. No. 219, p. 570
crib *quick.* 14 § 28
cridenbás *terror.* 88, 9. See CCath. Index s. v.
cróch-buide *saffron-yellow.* 66, 5
croib-glicc *nimble-footed.* 52, 23, 64, 9
cronaigim *I reproach.* 88, 17
crúách *bloody.* 10 § 2
cúa *hollow, decayed?* 42, § 3. rofetur mo chorp is cua, LL. 208*a*25. O. Ir. caue, Anecd. ii., p. 17, 16
cuip-lestar *a cup-vessel, a drinking-vessel.* 64, 3
curatacht f. *heroism.* 70, 2

daille f. *blindness, ignorance.* 50, 9
dainme *a blemish, defect, loss.* 42 § 1
dam f. *a house.* dat. daim 12, § 23. 16 § 45. 36, 18
deden-dál f. *a last meeting.* 10 § 5
derg-deoch n. *a red draught.* 12 § 12
díbinn 80, 10?
didan *a remnant.* 36, 18
dígailt *a revenging.* 64, 33
dígnais *unwont, unfamiliar.* 26, 14
dígrais *hard.* 12 § 15
do-ad-lod *I went to.* donárlaith 16 § 42. Cf. p. 20
do-ad-ellim *I go up to, reach, touch,* pres. sg. 3 tadill 36, 10. perf. sg. 3 dom-ár-aill 36, 13

do-aid-berim ? -taidber 36, 14

do-allaim *I take away.* pres. sg. 3 doall a ríge aire 32, 4. tall 50 § 28

dobur-chéo *a dark mist.* 56, 34

doccamail *distress.* 86, 19. Cf. ataam a ndoccumal mór, Betha Colm. m. L. § 56

dochta f. *closeness, secretiveness.* 10 § 3

do-delbda *misshapen.* 58, 12

do-essith *has sat* or *settled down.* 34, 17

do-fichim *I avenge.* fut. pass. sg. dofíastar 36, 19. tofesar 38, 26

doimthech ? Dáre D. 28, 18. 30, 10

dóin m. *a human being.* 14 § 24

do-lámaig *feeble-handed.* 80, 32

do-od-sechim *I nurse, hoard.* pres. subj. sg. 2 duscoisis 16 § 40. v. n. toschid

do-neuth *I await.* imper. sg. 2 tuinite 12 § 23. Cf. p. 19

do-ro-saigim *I reach.* pres. ind. sg. 3 donroïg, 12 § 14 pres. subj. sg. 2 domruïs, 12 § 20

dorar *a fight.* 25, 17. 26, 10. Wi. LL. 51^{b}52. TTr.^{2}1657. CZ. III. 425, 15. gen. brāth dorair dia memdatar maidind, Corm. s. v. maidinn.

dorus-bél m. *a passage.* 66, 2. 92, 33

do-scáilte *hard to separate.* 88, 5

do-selb f. *illgotten possession.* 56, 17

dranntad *a grinding* (*of teeth*). 66, 7

drochlaig *a coward.* gen. drochlaige 12 § 13

druit *close.* 16 § 40

drúith-chathmíl m. *jester and soldier.* 34, 7

drúthán m. *a darling jester.* 34, 9

du-aig *grievous.* 10 § 5

dúi m. *an ignorant person.* 14 § 34

dúire f. *hardness, harshness.* 12 § 12

dule-glass *green-leaved.* 10 § 11 Cf. do dún dairgech dulend-glas, LL. 193*a*38

duma *a mound.* 58. 1. 12. d. selga 52, 13. 58, 11. 62, 3.

echruis 84, 33, miswritten for *ecrus* 'arrangement'? Cf. seche i n-ecrus (in inechrus St.) iarna chúl, Br. D. D. 87. doberr i n-ecrus, Cáin Ad. 46. claideb órduirnd i n-ecrus sesta for a dib śliastaib, Ir. T. I. 310.

elach (ilach, ulach) f. *a pæan.* acc. elig 24, 22

emir? 30, 16.

én gaile *bird of valour.* 94, 13. atracht én gaili 7 gaiscid ind, Cog. 188, 15. atrácht a én gaile ós a anáil, TTr. 600. co ra éirgetar a n-eóin gaile ós a n-análaib, ib. 1706.

enach *snare, trap.* enaige selga 64, 10. is andsin rosernad cétna-selg Laigen .i. enach selga, Dinds. 34

engach *engraved, graven.* a sgabal e. 84, 28. scíath e. 88, 6. See O'Dav. 1056.

éo-chaill f. *yew-forest.* Metaph. *a band of warriors,* 10 § 8

éuba *a brooch*? 14 § 27. Cf. eobarr, Ériu II, p. 10

errach *spring.* Metaph. *spring-time, youth.* 26, 4.

escairtes m. *enmity.* 96, 1

escor m. (v. n. of as-cuiriur) *fall, loss.* 16 § 47. Fél. Index

étach n. (v. n. of in-tuigiur) *clothing, drapery, tapestry.* 70, 31

éteth *clothing.* 72, 3. 98, 3. éted, SR. 1476

ethrech-brec *fin-speckled.* 58, 3. As to the etymology and meaning of *ethre* see C. Marstrander, CZ. III., p. 383

etracáin *an intervening.* 72, 25. eadargain, O'R.

faitigim *I kindle.* 70, 32

fán: cuirim i fán *I overthrow, lay low* 54, 22

fán-glenn *a sloping glen.* d. pl. -taib 52, 10. 64, 10.

fannaigim *I weaken.* 42 § 8. Dinds. 103. TTr. 1989. LL. 211*b*49

fann-chlechtach *having slender plaits.* 58, 30

fathmannach[1] *an epithet for the hair.* 58, 30. co muing órbuide órsnáithi fathmaindig, TTr.[2] 362. Corm. s. v. prull. cach finna fathmainnech LU. 81*b*13

fé *woe!* fé frisin fiacail! 36, 14

feichemnus m. *recrimination.* 56, 12. 82, 22. 84, 20

féith *woodbine.* 94, 21

ferg-arnaid *fierce in anger.* 84, 20

fer fiadaig *a hunter.* 56, 31

fetgaire *a whistling.* 56, 31. SG. 306 15. YBL. 210*a*30. BB. 476*b*34

fích-innsaigthech *angrily attacking.* 78, 10

fidbui *poison.* 36, 16. co fiacail fidbi (.i. nemi), YBL. 205*b*35.

find-grian *fair gravel.* 50 § 24

fobaigim *I vanquish.* 60, 27.

fo-benim *I attack.* ní fuban 26, 14. fuban, Arch. III, p. 2. 13. 14. fobenat, Wb. 13*b*13. fodotben, LU. 73*a*14. subj. ní fubai dam, LL. 108*a*6

fo-bothaim *I startle, scare.* gl. *consternor*, Sg. 146*b*16. famboith, 24, 4. ipv. sg. 3 **ná** fubthad 16 § 43. co fotabothad gl. ut *populum terreret*, Ml. 33*b*16. ní bái ní ara fubthaitis occu, TFerbe 113

fo-canim *I sing.* 10 § 10. focan, SR. 2695. ceól caille fomchanad, Liad. 24, 14. foscain cúach, King and H. 27.

fochmarcith m. *a questioner, interrogator.* 30, 25

fóentrecha ?. 20, 32

fogaith *a small spear, javelin.* 88, 3. 90, 1

foracal (forac[h]er) 24, 12

for-bar *overbearing, mighty.* 12 § 18. n. pr. m. mac Forbair, Rawl. 502, 144*c*

forbartach *full-grown.* 54, 10. 20. gl. exoletam, Sg. 173*a*5

fordal (for-dul) *a going astray.* 10 § 5. fordull, Wi. tiagu cach fordul ar n-úair, LU. 57*b*. Cf. TBC. Wi. 487. ba lúath mo chéim cen fordul hi cathaib oc imforcuin, LU. 16*a*40. luid Fergus didiu fordal mór fadess, 57*b*1. in long do beth for fordul, BB. 462*b*19. gen. traig fordail di chonair, LL. 107*b*27. cechaing céim fordail, 213*a*38

for-find *very fair.* 48 § 16. co falgib flatha forfind, Metr. Dinds. 80

for-fiess f. *a coil.* 14 § 28. Wi.

forgab *a thrust.* 12 § 22. forgam, Wi. gen. fri tabairt béime nó forcaib, TTr. 1705

forglide *chosen, choice, excellent.* 78, 27 fer forglide, Ir. T. III. 57. minn foroll foirglide, FM. 908

fo-r-iccim *I come upon, find.* pres. pl. 3 foreccat 34, 1. fosrecat Trip. 82, 21. fut. forricfe fáelte and, LU. 134*a*. pret. foránic, ib. subj. pass. hi fuirestar, Ériu II. 224. dús in fuirestar ind ór ann, RC. 12, 66. co fuiresta na teorai scilte óir, ib.

forosnaim *I kindle.* Wi. forosnat 14 § 33

for-réite *level parts.* 64, 11

for-smachtach *masterful.* 90, 6

foruimim *I place, put.* fuirmim, Wi. ipv. sg. 2 fotruim *betake thee!* 12 §23 is tó didiu forruim in pato a chosa, Corm. s. v. pato. faruim do Themair, RC. XI. 448, 88. conidforruim isin tulaig, ib. x. 74. furmid a chend i ndruim in daim (foruirmed E), RC. x. 56. condaforruimset ar bélaib in eóin, ib. 74 (H). subj. riasiu forroma bine forn, CZ. IV. 39. perf. foeruirem, Dinds. 1 § 8. forruirim a láim eter dí fertais in charpait, LU. 61*a*

fossad-lár (W. gwastawd-lawr) *a firm level or plain.* 70, 21. 78, 8. 88, 23. a fosfadhlár in tighe, Ir. T. Soc. v. 12

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[1] **bad fada fathmunn-cháel a folt,** Cóir Anm. 145. Anecd. I. 76

fossugud *a resting, rest, grave.* 38, 19

fortamail *prevailing, superior, puissant.* 66, 8. Fergus f. fechair, LL. 48*b*

fossad *firm, stout.* 48 § 14. fossud! *steady!* LL. 287*a*12

fráech *mane.* 66, 7. 19

fráech-aicmêil *terrible in anger.* 72, 24. 78, 10. triasan ffairrce ffraochaigmhéil, FM. 1602

fraig-imellach[1] *cold-bordering.* 88, 30

frecar m. *opposition.* gen. frecair 46 § 8. dat. hi frecor, Rl. 502, 124*a*54

fris-loscim *I burn up, wither.* 12 § 17

fritecht (v. n. of fris-tíagu) *opposition.* 26, 6. Cf. ni frithtáig-sa gl. non contravenio, Thes. Pal. II., p. 4. fritumthiagar gl. obeor, Sg. 183*a*

frithlerg, a corruption of **retoric** f. *an alliterative poem* 82, 25

frithrusc *an outburst, fit? a return?* 56, 11

friuch? 26, 12.

fuiltiugh .i. fuilriug? (obscurum per obscurius) 30, 12

fungaire f. *dawn.* 4, 14. Cóir Anm. 220. la cach funga[i]re solus, Ir. T. III. 55, 16. rosiu firu fungaire (sic leg.), LL. 38*a*

gáisitech *hirsute, bristling.* 64, 13. Cf. mong glas gáisechtach 'wiry,' O'Gr. SG. 328, 19 = gāisidech, RC. XXIV. 196, § 11

galann? 44 § 9. common in the phrase guin galann: dogníther g. g. andsin d'Ailill, RC. 24, 186. TFerbe 676. Dinds. 101. Ir. T. Soc. v. 52. CRR. 26. ML. 142. flaith Mide mílib galann, FM. 106. líth ngaland, Br. D. D. 101. ní fil galand rosói dath, CZ. III. 206 n. 5

garb-slige f. *fierce slaughter.* 10 § 2

gáríne *a little laugh.* 34, 8.

geimlech *fettered.* 42 § 5. unga geimlech '*fetter-ounce*,' i.e. *ransom*, FM. 1029

genelach *genealogy.* 48, § 21. i ngenelaigib 28, 7. n. pl. geneloigi, Rawl. B. 502, 140*b*

geronat? 42, § 3. gearg .i. garg, O'Cl. d'fuil ríg rogerg, LL. 157*b*40. giugraind gergga, 297*b*47. dáil de for Aed n-ingor, forsin gerec, Baile in Scáil 47. firfid graphainn gerg-[g]aile (: sechtmaine), SR. 6203. As a noun: gen. uair gerga 7 gaia, Ir. T. III. 94, 20

gillānrad f. *attendants.* 56, 30. gillanrad Alman úare, LL. 145*b*16

ginit f. *a sprite.* n. pl. ginite glinne 94, 25. Windisch, TBC. Index

glasse *a stream.* 50, § 24. SG. 482, 48, 49

glé *a dispute.* 26, 18

glé-denn *bright-coloured.* glasmuir g. 32, 17. muir g., Anecd. I. 58. RC. XIII. 471

glé-maisech *bright and stately.* 86, 4

gletnide adj. *hard-fighting.* 96, 5. Derived from *gleten* f. 'hard fight' O'R. (gledenn). gleden glúair glainide claidem, Cog. 180, 9. acc. sg. torged gletin, LL. 181*a*14. cia rosgnáthaig gletin ngéir, 138*a*16 (: etir). adnocul cen gleitin, 23 N 10. p. 95. Hence also Gletnechán n. pr. m. BB. 95*c*

glére f. *choice, élite, flower.* 94, 2. do gléri slúag Muman uli, Cog. 166, 20. MR. 190, 17. TBC. 1446. fo gléri cach maithiusa, Eg. 1782, 87*b*.

gnáth-fían f. *the ordinary* fian. 52. 7

gorm-ainech *noble-faced.* 10 § 8. Cellach g. glan, FM. 890. LL. 98*a*1. Br. D. D. 75

grán (m.) catha *a caltrop.* 34, 15. n. pl. gráin catha .i. bera, Ir. Nenn., p. xi. dat. treana gráinib catha, ib.

[1] fraigh .i. fuacht, P. O'C.

gredan *uproar, bustle.* 56, 30. bec cech glór is cech gredhan | acht medhair mór na Muman, Add. 30, 512, 55*b*2. dochuala gáir 7 greadhan éighmi 7 acáinti, CZ. VI. 52. gidh mór a ngredan is a nglór, Cog. 86, 26. 178, 26

greit-líath *grown grey in valour.* 64, 14

grían (O. Ir. griän) *ground, bottom.* re g. a geilchnis 84, 25. léne órénáith fria grian a chnis, Acall. 5808 n.

gúaire *bristles.* 66, 8. g. aitenndai fair, Lism. L. 3798. finn ar guairi cullaigh allaidh, Ir. T. III. 86, 4

guin-aided f. *death by a wound.* 38, 26. Cf. ní rega do comarba oided ngonai óndiu co bráth, Trip. 196, 13

id-snádad *a saving.* 16 § 44

il-grésach *variously wrought.* 58, 22. a n-inair amlacha iubaili ilgrēsacha, CF. 249

im-chomarc *a question, greeting, salutation.* Wi. far n-i. úaidib, Wb. 24*b*29. beir i. úaim-se co Crēidi, Anecd. I. 7. CZ. IV. 235, 2. LU. 73*a*29. Ir. T. III. 12, 1. 13, 1

im-cuiriur *I exchange.* pret. pl. 1 imcuirsem 12 § 25. *I revolve, meditate.* pret. sg. 3 imchorastar 36, 3. *I move about.* imdacuiret immá mér, Br. D. D. 76

imde *ample.* 96, 9

im-dénim *I embroider, adorn.* perf. pass. pl. imdernta 14 § 34. imdernad do umo crédo ule, CZ. IV. 35

im-fóirim (-fo-ferim) *I prepare.* perf pass. immonróirad 10 § 4

imlenn f. *navel, boss.* 58, 23. imlenna 58, 22. 62, 17, 25. (scíath) cona imlind airaird órdai, LL. 189*a*61

im-throm *very heavy, ponderous.* i n-imthromaib a n-arm 78, 3

im-túaruscbaim *I describe.* pres. pl. 3 imostúaruscbat 16 § 37

indech *woof.* 14 § 32. derg-innech 14 § 30. 50 § 26

indill-dírech *straight-casting.* 66, 10. From *indell* 'amentum'

in-glæ *unrenowned.* 16 § 46

ingnam 86, 10 = ingnad *wonderful*

in-láaim ? pres. sg. inlá 38, 8

inmuine f. *love.* 16 § 47

íriu f. *land.* 16 § 39. íre, Wi. ind íriu, LB. 202*b*32. gen. hírend, LL. 5*b*16

irnad ? n. pl. irnadha 92, 20 intan iarum atchondairc iarnada broin 7 merten 7 meriden menman for a gnúis, TTr. 1059

iubaile *prescription.* 42 § 6. See Laws Gloss. ní íadat iubaili for étechtu ail, LU. 46*b*7. iubaili (iubail) .i. cáin na secht mbliadan ón feis Temrach coraile, Ir. T. III. 198 § 55

láiches f. *a lay-woman.* 14 § 36. Aisl. Tund. IX.

láided (ar) *an inciting.* 56, 31. See Death-tales, Index

laidsech 98, 2?

láim dím *I cast from me.* 46 § 9. raláis dit Fer ndiad na ndrong, TBC. 3979[1]

lám-daith *nimble-handed.* 42 § 8

lasamuin *flaming; fierce.* 76, 5. 90, 32. 92, 5. láech lassamain lángér, TTr. 607

láthair *a site.* l. licthe 52, 13. 64, 7. co l. 66, 2. As to licthe cf. lethgnith licthi *a small spear for throwing.* 90, 1

latrann m. *a robber.* 60, 14. O. Ir. *latur* from Lat. *latro.* in latur 7 in tāthaid 7 in senbrataire .i. dīabol, Lism. fo. 51*b*2

léitmire f. *vigour, strength.* 60, 13.

[1] Another meaning of *láim dé* is '*out-live.*' fodéig rolád cach duine 7 cach díne dí ó aimsir Cesra co flaith Diarmata, RC. XV. p. 277.

lén *woe, sorrow, grief.* gen. líuin 10 § 4. ó domrala illigi leóin, CZ. VI. 263. fuilngidh bar lén! O'Gr. Cat. 366, 1. dat. lèon, LL. 95*a*19

ler-gus m. *sea-strength.* 44 § 10. n. pr. m. LL. 310*b*35. AU. 771.

letha *broader.* 24, 10. 11, 13. Later lethiu, LU. 59*a*37. lethi, LL. 33*b*46

leth-ard *half-high.* rosc l. 60, 1. mesam laigi lethard, Aib. Cuigni 155 (Arch. III. 230)

leth-gaith *a half-spear, javelin.* 90, 1. lethgae, TF. 164, 22. 174, 9

létgaire f. *vigour.* 72, 24. 90, 18

línech *lined* or *made of linen?* 90, 17. See CCath. Index s.v.

línmairecht f. *numerousness, abundance.* 70, 1. Tig. 1172. AU. 1397, p. 34

lochlannach *Norse.* manáis l. 34, 34. tuaga ~a, Cog. 162, 9

loingeid m. *an exile.* 86, 18

lom- (intensive) *full, complete.* 62, 12

long f. *house.* dat. acc. luing 78, 22. 25. 80, 2. 4. Long na mBan, Dinds. 1 § 26. Long Muman, Long Laigen, MR. 6, 7. gen. indithmigud inna luinge a filet nói ngráda nime, RC. XXVI. 140

luid *he went.* pl. 3 luidsidar 54, 17. 2 lodsaid, LU. 64*b*7. 65*a*15

más *buttock, bottom.* gen māis, O'Dav. 680. a más mar lethmæthail, Corm. 36, 36.

maslugud *disgrace.* 72, 27. SG. 309, 22

medrach *murmuring.* 68, 9

méide *a neck, trunk.* 84, 16. 92, 21

meirb *feeble.* 12 § 17. 14 § 33

mellach *globe.* 82, 22

menmanrad n. *hope.* 96, 19

mer-dánacht f. *recklessness.* 70, 2

míl n. *a hare.* 52, 16

míl-bél *honeymouthed.* 42 § 7. Cermait m., LL. 11*b*4. Conán m., 203*a*. Lóegaire m., 94*b*22. pl. milbéla druinecha, Tec. Corm. 13, 37

míletacht f. *soldiership.* 68, 30. MR. 314, 18

mí-tháem *guile.* 70, 5

móil-derg *blunt and red.* 94, 16

mongur *din, noise.* 56, 29. mongar in mara, RC. XIV, 40 § 41

more *a pile.* m. mórthined 58, 4. 70, 32. i m. móirthened Ir. T. Soc. V, 14

múad-láech m. *a coward?* 90, 14. Cf. muadóclach, LL. 93*a*46

múch f. *smoke.* 50, 9

múr *plenty.* 10 § 5. múr ainm d'imbed tall 'sind recht, RC. 20, p. 154. Corm. s.v. fogamur. a múr chlúime, Fél. Prol. 126

macoán-rad n. *a band of youths* 16 § 45

mai 16 § 47?

maioce f. *boyhood.* 32, 3

mainner f. *a fold.* 88, 4. dat. secht n-archaingil and | 'na rath-mainnir frimm, Laud 615, p. 25

mairnim *I betray.* subj. sg. 2 cia nommera 26, 14

máithmige f. *a flinching.* 94, 10

málla *gentle.* 60, 3. ingen Ḟidcháin m., LL. 139*a*25. 138*b*2

mámugud 38, 20?

margarét f. *pearl.* 14 § 32. margareit, LB. 279*b*71. margréit, LL. 237*b*. margrent thaitnemach, LB. 138*b*6 margreg, BB. 7*a*12

náthar *of us.* 12 § 22

nem-maithmech *unforgiving.* 82, 13.

nidhachus, better níachus m. *championship.* 68, 30. nert 7 cumachta 7 niachus mór, Anecd. II. 54

noll (nall) 26, 13, an interjection. nald .i. mér nō adbal; nall amæ .i. is mór inmi-H. 3. 18, p. 73

nómaide *a space of three days and three nights.* 36, 12. co cenn nómaide, LL. 157*a* 25 = fri nói tráth, Dinds. 65. = teora trátha, Ir. T. Soc. VII. 82

núa-gnithe *new-made?* 50, 3

oblirach *a lampoon.* 24, 7

ócbud f. *warriors.* 24, 19. gen. ind ócbotha 24, 18. imgabáil ócbada, CZ. III, 25, 30. dat. de ócbaid rochalmai, TTr. 205

ocian m. *ocean.* dat. sg. ónd ocian 30, 17. gen. ocein ollbrais, Anecd. I. 55

óclach m. *a warrior.* óclachu 26, 16

ócl(a)ig m. *a warrior.* 24, 6. 26, 4. 11. gen. óclaige 26, 2. ní fil i nÉre óclaig bas amru, LU. 59*a*13. For the form cp. aithlig, midlaig, múadlaig.

ocul-borb *angry and fierce.* 88, 4. ogulborb, H. 2. 7, 278*a*. ocul from *ud-gal

óige = **áige** m. *a pillar? a spit, spear?* aige ainm bir, Corm. s.v. braga 16 § 42

ol *than.* ol bái 6, 14. oldás 6, 15

óraide *golden.* 58, 23

ordach *pieced together.* 56, 1

ór-dornchar m. *a golden hill.* 84, 33

oscurda *mighty.* 88, 28. tuc Grigair grád a anma | don naeidin óig oscurda, Hy Maine 58*b*

othor-lige n. *a grave.* 36, 21. RC. XXIV. 182, § 12. sepultus est isin mainistir céttna i n-otharlighe a athar fo dítin Dé, CZ. VIII., p. 111

reicne f. *an extempore poem.* See p. 1, note. 8, 6. 16 § 46

remmaig? 24, 20. Cf. remmaim *I distort*? Corm. s. v. reim.

rígbais? 82, 6

rince 38, 10. See Cormac s. v. rincne. rincne .i. ainm sleige, Corm. Add. s.v.

rinnech *armed with a spear.* 14 § 30

rogda *chosen, choice.* 46 § 3. Fél. Oeng. Index

roidhmethan? 14 § 33

rúanata *mighty.* 66, 30. 32. From 1. rúanaid,[1] Wi.

saidemail 88, 24 = saithemail *swarming*; unless miswritten for sainemail

san chan *here and there.* 14 § 30. 16 § 41. san chan ásas im Thuirbe Corm. Tr. 8. immon mBóinn san chan .i. do cach leith, Expuls. 25

scabal *a breast-plate.* 84, 28. roghabh scaball Mhanannáin uime fa chaol a mhuinil, Atl. IV. 176. s. Mhanannáin ar chleithín a uchta, ib. 162. dá chéad sgabal is cathbarr, Ériu I. 24

scáth-uaine *emerald-tinted.* 84, 35. CF. 251

scell-bolgach[2] *shield-bulging.* Anecd. II. 58. BB. 489*a*6

scell-briste *shield-broken.* 90, 10

scemel *the edges of a shield.* sciath scemel-brectha 72, 4. See Acall. Index s. v.

scol-gaire f. *din, noise (of a school).* 90, 16

scothamlach *adorned with designs of flowers* (scoth). 84, 35. CCath. Index

ségda *noble, stately.* 48 § 21. From *séig* 'hawk.'

seimm *a rivet.* n. pl. semmanna 6, 21. seim gái cach fir, TFerbe 31. fidba cen seim, Triads 172

seiselbe *din, tumult.* 56, 30. sésilbe Wi. Cf. inna sisilbecha gl. *tumultuaria*, Ml. 120*d*4

sel (W. chwyl) *a turn, while, time.* ar sel *upon a time*, 54, 17

sen-nath *an ancient poem.* 30, 13. 21. nath ainm coitcenn dona huilib aistib eics[id]ib, Corm. s. v. nuthan. is hí dano foglaim na dechmaide bliadna .i. xl. sennath, Ir. T. III, 54

sernad *a spreading.* s. sligе 90, 33. ro sert sligе, Fél.[2] 248

sesmach *stable, steadfast, solid, stout.* 86, 2. 8. MR. 182, 3. SG. 250, 12. bí go sesmach ar son chirt! O'Gr. Cat. 485

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[1] Not from *ro-fénid*, as Zimmer suggests, which would have given *róinid*.

[2] *scell*, a loan from O. N. *skjöldr*.

sestan *din, turmoil.* 56, 33. 72, 12. 29. Wi. robhaoi glór mór 7 sestan i longport ffer Mumhan, TF. 204, 13

síanán *a song.* s. trocha 24, 18. mná oc s., RC. 26, 162. 25, 32. 9, 22. O'C. III. 385

siball m. *a fibula.* 14 § 36. an tsibheall (.i. delg) argait robaoi isin brut, Bruss. Ms. 2324, 59*a*

sicir by metathesis for **siric** *serge.* 56, 3. C Cath. 4930. siccir, Cog. 112, 3

sídgal f. *great valour.* 96, 14. Bodl. Dinds. 30

sind-snáth *sendal.* 56, 3. sinsnath, Cath Cath. 4662. 4930. sind borrowed from Lat. sindon

sítaide *silken.* 84, 24

sithchen[n]ach *long-headed?* 86, 23

slabre n. *a marriage portion.* 6, 7. slaibre, Cóir Anm. 220. RC. 25, 36

slithi 58, 14?

snífhe *twisted, plaited.* 86, 2. gl. tortuosus, Ml. 24*b*7. 25. slimprib snífhib, I.U. 132*a*9

só͡d *a dainty.* 56, 5. *good cheer.* fri toisc só͡id, Metr. Dinds. II. 78

soinnim *eager.* 62, 27. co soindim, TBC. Wi., p. 587. do mesc sin co soinnib arna slúagaib, RC. IV. 114

so-ól͡a *good to drink.* 58, 18. 62, 19

sorchaide *bright.* 48 § 15. céinmair sámhadh sorchaidhe! TF. 196, 7. for slóg síabra sorchaidi, LU. 76*a*1

sotlacht f. *pride.* 82, 12

srethnaigim *I spread* (intr.). 50, 9. 19. O'Dav. 666. srethnaigthe, Alex. 566

so-menmnach *happy.* 58, 24. 62, 4. 64, 4

srib-úaine *green-streamed.* 52, 20

subach *joyous.* 58, 24. 62, 4. 64, 4. sic leg. 10 § 11

subaid *joyful, joyous.* 38, 8. subaide, 38, 7. subaid cach sithsuthain, Aib. Cuigni. I.L. 125*b*9

sruth-lúaimnech *rushing like a river.* 88, 24

táibthid m. *a companion.* 46 § 7

tairbad *a severance, hindrance.* 10 § 9. acc. pl. cen tirbada, Rl. 502, 86*a*45

tairpthige *f. hastiness, fierceness.* 6, 11

tebęsl-? 82, 32

téig 68, 14?

tét *luxurious.* 16 § 37. bæ mac tét la ríg Temrach, Expuls. 2

tét *a string, cord.* n. pl. téta, 34, 2. ina téta, CZ. IV. 36, 5. n. du. dá théit, Lism. L. 4833

tét-bann lit. *a string-deed.* 12 § 17. n. pl. nisfoelsat a tétbannai (viz. the falling stars), SR. 8164. airgit aní robói und ¦ co n-ilur tuarad tétband, TFerbe 886

tíbu *I smile.* 34, 9. Wi. tibid grían dar each tír, Four Songs. tibid trácht find, ib. tibtis námait, Anecd. I. 71

tig-dál f. *a last meeting = death,* 10 § 10

tigern-mas m. *a lord.* 38, 24. ar treóin 7 ar tóisig 7 ar tigernmais CRR. 30. 31. 32. n. pr. m. LL. 16*b*47

tin-orgun f. *slaughter.* 12 § 21. ar tinorcain, LU. 67*b*25. tindorcain, 71*b*39

tiug-chelebrad *last farewell.* 36, 17. tigcelebrad, RC. XIII. 464 § 70

tlí *comfort?* 40, 2. SR. Index. Arch. III. 314 § 26. Patraic, ní triamain a tlí, LL. 164*b*17. cen tam co tlí, 132*a*13. 132*b*4. co trocha thli, 133*a*6. 35*b*22. RC. XIII. 474

tnúth-greis 82, 6?

toilge 26, 10, gen. of *toilc* f. 'pride'? ba mór a toilc menman, TFerbe 174. ar threise na toilge ronucsat 7 ar mét na feirgi, TTr.[2] 1847

toirt *bulk, mass.* 94, 15. Wi. toirt teineadh treathanmhóire, Tor. Dh. 76,-2

tolgda *proud.* 46 § 12. Fél. Index. Anecd. I, 54. 57. 6 § 81. From *toilc.*

torc-asnach *having ribs like a boar.* 92, 12

trebar-glan *fair-tilled.* 84, 25

trē-dúalach *three-meshed.* 84, 28. lúirig trēdúalaig, BB. 460*a*40 = triplicem loricam, Aen. v. 259

tress *a blow.* 24, 4

trethan-borb *storm-fierce.* 88, 13

trethnach *billowy, turbulent.* 82, 27. Wi. cluiche tond trethnach, LL. 146*b*19. dar tríathmuĭr trethnaig, 354*e*

trocha f. *death-doom.* 24, 18. LL. 133*a*6

troit *strife, fight.* gen. troda (used adjectivally) 92, 25. 26. ropo domna trota, LL. 11*a* 40

tuid 46 § 5?

tuinte *a company.* 88, 13. See CCath. Index s. v. tunti lĭn a verbo tundo, Corm.

úaithne (O Ir. úatne. Wi.) *pillar,* used of a *leg* 66, 17.

úalann 32, 18? ro degthail. mór n-ualand n-ard, LL. 137*b*15. Imr. Br. 15. Lism. L. 4379

ug m. *the point of a spear.* n. pl. uig a gái 24, 10. 11. eter dá n-ug imfáebair. Br. D.D. 87. ar uígib 7 ſaebraib, LL. 266*a*15

uirge f. *a testicle.* 64, 14. Laws. do gelugud Gall-uirge (: cam-buirbe) Ir. T. III. 89.) idər in timperacht 7 na huirghe *between the anus and the testicles* Add. 15, 582 (A.D. 1563)

ulcus m. *evil disposition, anger.* u. menman 24, 2. in ara olcus lat? Lism. L. XIV. 9

uleamnas (three syllables) *all fierce.* 10. § 11

urdlochtan 66, 4?

ur-álaide *a smiting; blows.* 94, 22

úrlúachraim *I strew with fresh rushes.* 54, 32. Ir. T. Soc. v. 4

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ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA

A better copy of the first two stanzas of the poem printed on p. 4 will be found in Rawl. B 502, p. 155*b*31.

p. 14, § 26, instead of "fol*aig*", read "fo[i]l*ge*".

p. 30, l. 2, instead of "Nemnūaill", read "Nemnuaill".

p. 42, § 1. Bergin proposes to read:

"ma sáile éc duit fodéin, nách bét dot chéill cáine geóid?"

which would give rhyme between *sáile* and *cáine*.

p. 46, § 1, for "*cāilti*", read "*cailti*".